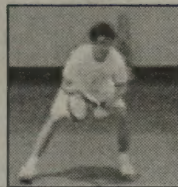


Photo essay: The art of glass blowing

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Young men's tennis squad has big hopes for season

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The Defender

April 11, 2001

St. Michael's College Student Newspaper

Volume XXVI, Issue 8

Maple syrup special



Smoke pours from the chimney of the sugar house at Couture's Maple Shop in Westfield, Vt. where sap is boiled into maple syrup.

Photo by Rebecca Bazinet

See Page 8

Seniors to give technology

\$29,000 classroom will be open to all students

By Susan Cristoferi
News Editor

The Class of 2001 will equip an existing classroom with a DVD player, a video projector and computers for its senior gift.

"It gives back to all students," said senior Jason King, class gift chairman, said. "The classroom will be available for all to use."

The classroom is estimated to cost about \$29,000.

A senior class gift committee composed of 20 students agreed

upon the gift.

The idea for the gift was found in a book of suggested class gifts, King said.

King said he and senior Evan Pasenello made the final decision to choose the classroom from the book's suggestions.

King sent a letter last month to all seniors requesting donations toward the classroom.

Students can donate a pledge of \$100 to help raise money for the gift. This pledge can be paid quarterly for the next two years.

King said he has received about \$1,000 in donations since he sent the letter.

King said that although technology is rapidly changing, he believes the classroom will still be useful to students.

"Something new comes out every day," King said. "Better to have it [classroom] now."

Commencement speaker to be chosen, seven nominated

By Kerry Flynn
Staff Writer

Graduation is only a month away and while most seniors are itching to get their diplomas, one will be preparing a speech for the departing class.

Class of 2001 President Evan Pasenello said a student graduation speaker has not been chosen.

"There has been very little talked about the whole issue," Pasenello said. "It will not be decided upon for another couple of weeks."

Each year a senior class member is nominated by his or her peers to give a speech at the commencement ceremony.

The informal nomination process was done this year via e-mail.

Seniors nominated this year include Christine Sweet, Mark

Pater, Sue Bette, Steve Brady, Ben W. Parker, Logan Smith and Chris Fenlon.

After the senior class nominates the students it feels would best represent it at graduation, a panel composed of faculty and students makes the final decision.

At last year's graduation ceremony, then-senior Madeleine Clinton of Jamesville, N.Y., spoke on behalf of the Class of 2000.

Senior Brian Butler said it was more suitable for a student who represents a majority of the class to speak.

"She did a good job. It was more relevant to the theme of graduation than Senator Leahy's speech," Butler said.

Sweet said she would love to write something to share with her class.

The meaning behind the nominated speaker seems to be

unknown, she said.

"I suppose they don't just want the person with the highest GPA to speak," she said. "It isn't about that."

Butler said graduation is about the class. By choosing who speaks at graduation, it allows the students to have say in who and what they want to hear, he said.

"I am not always interested in listening to people who share my views, but interested in how other people view their college experience," Butler said. "They should be reflecting on the experience that we all shared."

Bette said she has faith in all the nominees.

"I'm sure who ever speaks would do a great job," she said.

Sweet said she has an idea of what she would like to speak about if chosen.

"If I get chosen, I plan on

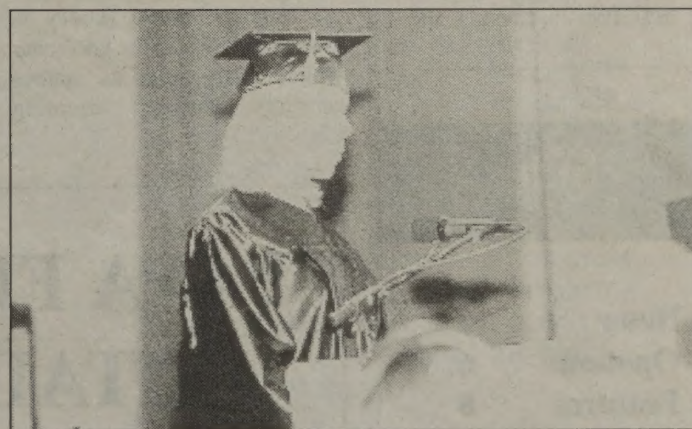


Photo courtesy of Hilltop yearbook
Madeleine Clinton (00') of Jamesville, N.Y., delivered last year's senior address at commencement.

speaking about how wonderful it is to graduate at this very time in history," Sweet said. "We are in the middle or on the forefront of a media revolution. We have the ability to change history. I will try to get people really excited to be who they are at this very

moment in the timeline of our humanity."

Parker said he was honored to be nominated.

"I'd love to give the speech," he said.

St. Michael's College Security Log

Excerpts from the March 30 to April 5 Security report. Compiled by Director of Security Peter Soons.

Friday, March 30

1:25 a.m. Noise complaint in 100s townhouses
1:45 a.m. Alcohol violation in 100s townhouses
2:03 a.m. Vandalism in Hodson Hall
1:05 p.m. Odor violation in Alumni Hall
11:05 p.m. Medical assist in Dupont Hall
11:23 p.m. Noise complaint in 200s townhouses
11:43 p.m. Suspicious person at library

Saturday, March 31

12:20 a.m. Vandalism at Ryan Hall
12:46 a.m. Vandalism at Lyons Hall
1:10 a.m. Noise complaint at Lyons Hall

1:30 a.m. Odor violation at Lyons Hall
1:46 p.m. Vandalism at Ross Sports Center

Sunday, April 1

12:36 a.m. Fire alarm at Ryan Hall
12:51 a.m. Vandalism at Joyce Hall
1:47 a.m. Alcohol violation at Hamel Hall
2:17 a.m. Fire alarm at Joyce Hall
3 a.m. Vandalism at 400s townhouses
5:17 a.m. Vandalism at Alliot Hall
3:35 p.m. Alarm at Alliot Hall
9:04 p.m. Motor vehicle accident at Lyons Hall
11:34 p.m. Larceny/theft at Purtill Hall

Monday, April 2

3:50 a.m. Parking enforcement at main

campus
7:30 a.m. Parking enforcement at main campus
9:17 p.m. Safety incident at Linnehan Hall

Tuesday, April 3

3:56 a.m. Parking enforcement at main campus
7:27 a.m. Parking enforcement at main campus
9:25 a.m. Parking enforcement at main campus
1:15 p.m. Parking enforcement at main campus
6:50 p.m. Harassment at Ryan Hall
10:26 p.m. Safety incident at Ryan Hall

Wednesday, April 4

12:15 a.m. Safety incident at 300s townhouses

Thursday, April 5

12:37 a.m. Suspicious person at North Campus
1:05 a.m. Towed vehicle at Rotunda
3:01 a.m. Suspicious person at Hodson Hall
7:25 a.m. Parking enforcement at main campus
8:40 a.m. Fire alarm at Hodson Hall
11:17 a.m. Suspicious person at Reiss House
9:09 p.m. Suspicious person at Ryan Hall
11:39 p.m. Suspicious person at Alumni Hall

The Defender Staff List

Executive Editor
Rhonda Miner
rminer@smcvt.edu

News Editor
Susan Cristoferi

Features Editor
Lauren Grosso

Calendar/A&E Editor
Nicholas J. Callanan

Photo Editor
Rebecca Bazinet

Sports Editor
Victoria Welch

Advertising Manager
April Patti

The Defender office is located in Bergeron 114 and can be reached at 654-2421 or by e-mail at defender@smcvt.edu. It is printed weekly by the B.D. Press in Georgia, Vt.

MIT offers free course materials online

Harvard Crimson
via U-Wire

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — MIT announced last week it intends to make materials for nearly all its courses available through the Internet to the general public — at no charge.

The 10-year project, dubbed the MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW), is a radical new step in Internet policy among institutions of higher learning.

For most colleges and universities, course Web sites are the extent of their use of the Internet for the dissemination of academic materials.

A handful of others are involved in developing the technology for distance learning programs.

MIT's project goes far beyond the scope of most distance learning programs — none of which offers full courses to the general public without a fee.

The project will feature lecture notes, course outlines, reading lists and assignments for each of MIT's nearly 2,000 courses.

Harvard Provost Harvey V. Fineberg ('67) said the university will have to weigh its options carefully before deciding

whether to follow MIT's course of action.

"Every university, including Harvard, will need to make decisions about the type, form and extent of information it places on the Internet," he wrote in an e-mail.

An April 4 press release emphasized the impact MIT hopes the initiative will have on would-be students around the world.

In addition to inspiring self-study by interested individuals, OCW might help developing nations build their own systems of higher education, starting with the MIT curriculum as a model.

MIT also stressed the potential OCW has to open the dialogue on education by fostering an environment in which curricula can be more easily discussed and compared.

"We see it as a source material that will support education worldwide, including innovations in the process of teaching and learning itself," said MIT President Charles M. Vest in a statement.

The project has its critics.

One response to the initiative has been that increasing access to materials offered by MIT courses

will decrease the value of an MIT education.

"I hear that as a potential concern," MIT spokeswoman Patti Richards said, "but this is not meant to replace an MIT education."

Richards pointed out that the experience of being in the classroom, listening to lectures and interacting with one's peers, cannot be duplicated over the Web.

Furthermore, MIT will not offer any form of academic credit as part of OCW.

Other critics noted the legal complications that may arise with the distribution of copyrighted materials and intellectual property.

But MIT has said the same policies currently followed by its faculty when dealing with these issues will apply to the Web courses as well.

Despite some criticisms, Richards said the response to the initiative has been overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

"We made the announcement only this morning and already I have received so many e-mails from people all over the world thanking me — they're really touching — saying this is the most wonderful news in the

world and asking, 'Where can I make a tax-deductible contribution?'" she said.

The response at Harvard has been equally positive. Harvard faculty members have previously expressed interest in using the Internet to disseminate the academic resources Harvard has to offer, and many said they are intrigued by the promise of MIT program.

"I think it's phenomenal," said McKay Professor of Applied Physics Eric Mazur. "If you look at my own course Web site, I've always insisted on making it available to everyone. I think this is really the way to go. I'm just saddened that we didn't do it before them."

Fineberg would not say whether the Harvard administration would approve of a program like MIT's initiative.

Last year, Harvard turned down an offer to join a distance learning alliance among Princeton, Yale, Stanford and Oxford.

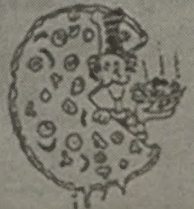
"Harvard hasn't decided to jump on the distance-learning bandwagon, but clearly MIT hasn't either," Mazur said.

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News

Housing crunch continues into next year

Students left disappointed after room lottery

By Jay London
Staff Writer

This year's room lottery was similar to last year's, although the general consensus was that more people went home upset this year than most.

About 335 juniors participated in housing lottery this year, quickly filling the 200s and 300s townhouses and most of the 100s, leaving little hope for any sophomores looking to get out of the dorms.

Priority twos (3 seniors and 1 junior) and very few priority threes (2 seniors, 2 juniors) filled up the small number of remaining 100s and available Hodson Hall apartments, leaving anyone interested in priority housing to North Campus and the Ethan Allen apartments. Only four groups of all juniors received priority housing (besides theme houses).

"It's not a new problem,"

"There need to be suites or apartments, because no student wants to live in a dorm for three years."

Karen Pollicelli,
sophomore

said Sheryl Fleury, housing coordinator. "[The housing situation] depends on rotation. With an enrollment of 1,850 students, some classes are bigger and some are smaller."

The reason the housing crunch is so tight, Fleury said, was that there are a greater number students in priority ones than in past years, leaving less opportunity for all-junior groups to receive priority housing.

In an attempt to house all seniors on main campus and to provide more students with priority housing, one floor of Hodson Hall, which was previously all GREAT (Growing Recognition of the Effects of Alcohol on Thinking) housing, was opened to all students.

Students who live in Great



Archive photo
One floor of Hodson Hall, previously GREAT housing, was opened to all students to provide more priority housing.

housing sign a contract agreeing to not abuse alcohol or other drugs in their living environment.

"Opening Hodson allows almost all seniors the chance to get townhouses," Fleury said. "Where's the fairness in offering apartments to seniors if we can't do it?"

Many students were upset with their housing for next year.

"I was pretty disappointed," junior Pat Hall said. "With three seniors, we expected better housing than in Hodson - in the 100s at least. There should be enough housing for all seniors to live in townhouses."

Because she planned to live with two seniors-to-be, sopho-

more Karen Pollicelli envisioned living in a townhouse on main campus next year.

"I expected to be living in one of the townhouses," said Pollicelli, who will reside in the Days Inn next year. "But after a meeting with Residential Life, we were told there was no room for priority threes on main campus, and we split up into two groups."

Even with the addition of the one floor in Hodson Hall and three floors of the Days Inn, it seems there are more and more students for fewer rooms.

"This year's incoming first-year class was 527 students," Fleury said. "President

vanderHeyden has put a cap of 480 for next year."

"The hard thing with the lottery is that it depends on every class," Fleury said. "With the fluctuations of size, it really depends on what class you're in and the size of that class."

Many students say the answer is not fewer students, but rather more priority housing.

"I think new buildings need to be built to accommodate upperclassmen," Pollicelli said. "There need to be suites or apartments, because no student wants to live in a dorm for three years."

The real housing crisis will come in three years, when this year's freshmen become seniors, Fleury said.

"All of the seniors this year were able to get priority housing while many of the first-year students were completely separated from their class," Fleury said.

Some freshmen were placed in alternative housing this year, including Founder's and Salmon halls.

"The housing crunch is mainly on first-year students," Fleury said. "If all first-year students stay throughout, there will definitely be first-priorities in Ethan Allen."

Job Opportunities - Colchester, VT

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News

Human Resources understaffed

By Rhonda Miner
Executive Editor

St. Michael's College will hire a director of Human Resources after the recent resignation of former director Patricia Slattery.

Slattery resigned after nearly a semester-long leave of absence.

The director is not the only position left unfilled.

Assistant Director of Human Resources Jennifer Wowk also resigned earlier this semester. Her position has not been filled, nor is it being advertised.

Tina Tenney, who is in her second week of work, was hired as the benefits and payroll manager, a position that had been vacant since last summer.

Human Resources is, according to Administrative Assistant Carol Kruger, responsible for payroll, contracts, benefits, advertising open positions and processing incoming applications and resumes.

Janet Sheeran, provost and vice president of academic affairs, said the duties are currently divided between Sheeran, Director of financial planning Mary Jane Russell, Payroll Specialist Liz Jackson, Tenney, Kruger, Human Resources Administrative Assistant Lorna Jewell and the provost's administrative assistants.

"It's been difficult," Kruger said, "but it's getting better, much better."

The semester in review

A chronology of events

Jan. 30: Report created by human resources consulting firm Watson Wyatt Worldwide is released to faculty members during a meeting. Watson Wyatt made recommendations regarding compensation, benefits and staffing structure of the college.

Jan. 31: Pat Suozzi, director of Library and Information Services, resigns.

Feb. 2: Director of Physical Plant Tim Pedrotty suspended with termination pending.

Feb. 5: Students protest Watson Wyatt report outside Durick Library.

Feb. 6-7: President Marc vanderHeyden attends five meetings in 48 hours to address campus-wide concerns about Watson Wyatt report.



Senior
Matthew
DeSorgher

Feb. 6: Senior Matthew DeSorgher brings resolution before Student Association to investigate students' confidence in the president and board of trustees.

Feb. 13: Oversight Committee is formed in response to DeSorgher's resolution. Committee will investigate students' confidence in president and board of trustees through a series of meetings.

Feb. 14: Vice President of Finance Neal Robinson sends mass e-mail announcing resignation of Pedrotty. Pedrotty resigned after 19 years of service to St. Michael's College.



President
Marc
vanderHeyden

March 1: Faculty receives contracts with generous salary increase. The Watson Wyatt Report recommended faculty salaries be increased.

March 16: Faculty Welfare Committee meets to discuss proposal to withhold 2 percent of faculty salaries in an escrow fund. Journalism professor Dianne Lynch presents a motion to further study the proposal.

March 23: During faculty meeting, biology professor Donna Bozzone presents motion that suggests faculty give individual health care contributions based upon their salaries. Professor Susan Kuntz presents motion that states faculty will not support any outsourcing proposals of staff positions that do not allow current employees to retain the positions for a minimum of three years, continue to have current benefits, and will be governed by the same personnel policies as current St. Michael's College employees.

March 23: Oversight Committee meets with board of trustees Chairman Peter Worrell in his Portsmouth, N.H. home. DeSorgher describes Worrell's language as being "laced with obscenities" throughout the meeting.

March 30: Oversight Committee releases report to faculty, staff and students. The report recommends that student and board interaction be improved upon. It also outlines the March 23 meeting with Worrell.

News in Brief

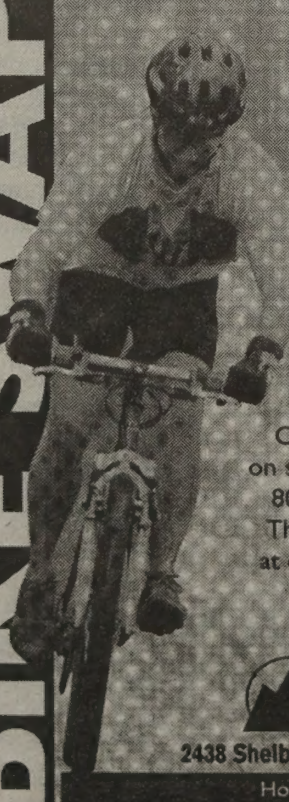
S.A. executive board nominees announced

Nominees for the 2001-2002 S.A. Executive Board were announced April 9.

They include Nicholas LaVallee for secretary of Student Policy; Beth Miller for secretary of Academics; Caitlin Corcoran for secretary of Programming; Maureen Corsetti for secretary of Communications; Monica Meunier for secretary of Finance; Nicholas Gill for secretary of Operations; and Mariusz Misiaszek for secretary of International Student Affairs.

The nominees will go before the S.A. Senate for appointment to their positions April 10.

BIKE SWAP



Climb High's Annual Bike Swap

From April 16-20th, bring in your old bikes, bike trailers, baby joggers or rooftop luggage carriers in good working condition.

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Opinion

Editorials

Time, fun flies

It's unbelievable how some moments last forever – like freshman year when you walked into the cafeteria, bumped into somebody with a full tray, and suddenly the entire room was watching you pick up broken dishes and wipe up your beanie-weenie casserole – and how others fly by.

Our parents told us college would be the best years of our lives, but they'd told us that about high school, about our summer jobs scrubbing dishes or picking vegetables, about endless hours of pre-season varsity soccer training and about sharing a room with our sisters.

We arrived at St. Michael's full of hope – a new beginning – knowing we could change what we'd been in high school into whatever we wanted to be – a partier, a prep, a diligent student, a jock, easy-going. But then we realized after the first few weeks that we didn't know who we wanted to be.

Sophomore year came, dragged on for what seemed like eight full months of a Vermont winter, and we struggled. Most of us found our niches. Those who couldn't make St. Mike's home had taken off, those of us who could had found our new selves. We lost track of all but a few friends from home, found some friends who hadn't lived on our floor freshman year and kept a few who had.

By junior year we realized our selves weren't so bad, and we'd pretty much found the long way of revamping our new lives into a more stylish version of our former ones. We settled into our group of friends and were determined to find a deeper meaning; we went on LEAP, traveled abroad, took yoga and started going to the programs offered on campus, the plays, the international coffee hours and basketball games. It seemed weird that we could barely remember freshman or sophomore year, and that February seemed like just yesterday.

We woke up today and realized it's over. We will, in a few weeks, never nag our roommates to wash their own dishes, never beg that professor to give us just one more extension and never see a musical free again.

Suddenly, we're panicked to find jobs, find apartments, find a college that will let us stay for just two more years.

We're skipping classes and ignoring assignments to sit around the living room with the roommate we wanted to strangle freshman year, except now we want to grab on for a different reason.

I don't know how four years turned into a blink of an eye, how 18 turned to 22 without a second thought, how living with 200 strangers went from the most frightening thought possible to the greatest comfort we've ever known or how the person who lay in the bed opposite yours who seemed like an absolute stranger turned into a sibling, but I know leaving it will be the hardest thing we've done.

We walk by each other every day; most of us at least know each other by name, but even if we don't, we recognize the face. I'll miss each one.

Rhonda Miner,
Executive Editor

Marilyn Cormier, director of community relations, was incorrectly identified in the April 4 Defender.

Due to scheduling, this is The Defender's last edition. Publication will resume in September.

The Defender Mission Statement

As the editorial staff of The Defender, the student-run newspaper of St. Michael's College, we strive to accurately, professionally and ethically report the news affecting the lives of students in the community.

The decisions we make with regard to content and style are our own, and are influenced only by our goal of both informing and entertaining our readers.

We believe in the freedom of expression. We encourage our readers to express their views at any time.

The Defender publishes letters to the editor in response to articles that we have printed in the paper and issues on campus. The Defender does not publish anonymous letters. Letters will be edited only for grammar, spelling and good taste.

Photo of the week



Photo by David Mindich

The Defender Spring 2001 editing staff, on a virtual vacation. From left to right: adviser Paul "Where are your proofs?" Beique; news editor Sue "I overslept" Cristoferi; features editor Lauren "I did something bad" Grosso; photo editor Rebecca "Thank God for Photoshop" Bazinet; Executive Editor Rhonda "Queen of the World" Miner; sports editor Vickie "I write at least 12 articles a week" Welch; and Nicholas J. "My ego needs boosting" Callanan.

Letters to the Editor

Challenge relations between women and Catholic Church

The recent articles on the St. Michael's College Women's Center in The Echo and The Defender have expressed student concerns regarding the absence of information on abortion and family planning.

As part of a Catholic college, the SMC Women's Center is obliged to adhere to Church doctrine and social policy regarding these issues, as must all women's centers on Catholic campuses throughout the United States.

As distressing as this may be to many members of the SMC community, female and male, it is a fact of life for the present. Rather than cast aspersions on the Women's Center and its staff over something they cannot control, it might prove more productive for students, faculty and staff to seek out ways in which we might examine, critique, understand, and maybe even challenge the relationship between women and the Catholic Church in an atmosphere of respect for the college's Edmundite heritage.

Finally, it is important to remember that a women's center is about more than reproductive issues. As stated in the SMC Women's Center Mission Statement, we hope to fulfill the mission of the College "by addressing society-wide problems of women: continuing inequities, stereotyping, harassment, abuse and violence – conditions of social injustice that, in our view, keep human beings and culture from reaching full emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual potential."

With the cooperation and goodwill of women and men from all areas of the campus community, Catholic and non-Catholic, the SMC Women's Center can become a vibrant,

inclusive and intellectually stimulating part of our community.

We would like to extend our appreciation to those students, faculty and staff who have brought their concerns before the St. Michael's community. It is critical to the intellectual life of this college to be able to debate these concerns in the spirit of an open exchange.

The women's center steering committee

Women's center should offer options in light of faith

In last week's edition of The Defender, Janine Hess published an interesting article on the ongoing controversy over the newly established Women's Center's inability to discuss materials and distribute information with regard to "reproductive freedom," specifically the issues of abortion and birth control, as such "freedom" is inconsistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church and by association the mission of St. Michael's College.

As a member of the Women's Center Assistant Core Team on the role of Women in Religion, I am dismayed that the Women's Center has been restricted from discussing these very important issues affecting women and the life of women in the Church. As a practicing Catholic who stands with the Church's life-affirming position on abortion rights, I find it unfortunate the center cannot offer the campus community information on the multitude of alternative options for women provided not only by the Church, but by other organizations who hold the Church's pro-life position as well.

I also find it disconcerting that the Women's Center has

been restricted from engaging in dialogue on these important issues. While the center cannot provide materials and resources that suggest neutrality in these issues, it is our responsibility as an educational institution to hold fruitful and productive discussions on the issues of reproductive freedom.

When the Women's Center was established last fall, President vanderHeyden expressed his hope that the Women's Center would be a place to discuss the role of women in the Church. In order to foster that discussion, we must discuss all issues that are of importance to women and the life of the Church. The issue of reproductive freedom is one that causes great controversy and debate, a debate that must extend to this campus as we are first and foremost an institution of higher education guided by a mission rooted in the teachings of the Catholic Church.

However, while discussion and debate on the issue of reproductive rights must take place, we must remember that we are a college with a Catholic mission. I agree with Fr. Marcel Rainville when he says the Women's Center "can't in any way provide counseling or material that makes abortion look like an option for Catholics." However, I also believe that the Women's Center must be a Catholic women's center in the truest sense of the word: a women's center that fosters discussion and debate on issues that impact the lives of women both at St. Michael's and around the world. I believe we can achieve this while keeping within the doctrine and spirit of the Church's teachings on issues of reproductive freedom.

Drew Russo,
sophomore

Op Ed

Letters to the Editor

Sign language grading considered unfair

I write this letter out of disappointment in my recent dealings with Dean Edward Mahoney. I was under the impression that a dean listened to and concerned himself with the students that he represented. St. Michael's grounds its beliefs in the values of the Catholic Church, and I was also under the impression that an administrator would not be arrogant and dismiss a problem without making sure the parties involved were at least given the chance for a meeting.

Two weeks ago a classmate and I went to his office to request an appointment to speak with him about the grading system for the sign language department.

His secretary said to send him an e-mail requesting an appointment, the quickest way for a response.

Almost a week later, after no response from the dean, we went to his office again and left another message that we would like to speak to him about the grading policy. It took a phone call from an angry parent for him to call us back. It appears he thought he could get away with ignoring students but finally had to deal with the situation when someone who foots the bill for his salary calls.

Students who take sign language are curious to the reasoning behind a 500-point system

that says a 75 is failing. The math clearly doesn't add up and anyone that owns a calculator can figure that out. But Mahoney didn't want to hear it. Instead he sent us an e-mail that skirted around the issue, and never mentioned that we would like to see him and concluded by saying that we should not use sign language as a way to seek a "good" grade.

Passing judgement on people with whom he can't even care enough to get back to promptly seems rather unprofessional in my opinion.

For a college that prides itself in keeping its students first, I can honestly say that I haven't seen that over last few weeks with trying to communicate with Mahoney. As a class we simply wanted to know why such an unfair sign language grading policy exists and what we could do to understand it better or change it. Instead of an answer we got the runaround.

On April 5 about 10 students, including myself, went to his office to see if we could get an appointment with him. His secretary said he had told her that the system has been in use for awhile now and was going to stay that way unless the department changed it. When Mahoney emerged from his office he told members of the class to just "do your work." He went on to say that he was not "sympathetic" to our cause. He tried unsuccessfully to justify the absurd grading policy currently in effect that

leaves a student with an 86 average in the class with a C. Some professors are stricter than others, he said. When a student asked him how her 96 average in the class last semester left her with a B plus for her final grade, he ignored her.

Sorry, but this isn't good enough for me or my fellow students who have no idea where they stand in the class and have gone to seek assistance and have not only been let down by the administration but insulted as well. The professors who teach the class can't even explain the grading system. We asked for a logical clarification. We are not asking for a "good" grade to be given to us. We are simply asking for a grade that we earned or a different policy that is actually clear to the student and professors teaching it.

Mahoney mentioned that he has dealt with inquiries in the past having to do with the sign language grading system. I would expect the college to take these inquiries seriously. People are obviously upset and confused and will most likely continue to complain or just give up and settle for a different language course with a normal grading policy. Hopefully it won't come to that and shame on St. Michael's if it does.

We are adults and should not have to have our parents calling the college because we aren't being treated with any respect.

Dr. Mahoney, I don't want

your sympathy nor will I accept your solution to just "work hard" and not look as sign language as a way to obtain a "good" grade.

We have been working hard all along and will continue to enjoy learning the art of sign, with your support or lack thereof.

Kerry Flynn,
junior

Ear candling not as relieving as thought

I am writing in response to the column by Andrea Henchey from the April 4 Defender. She wrote a very witty and informative article, but unfortunately, most of the information she included was misinformation. I regret to inform Ms. Henchey and the rest of the student body that ear candling is probably one of the biggest pseudo-medical treatments that can be offered out there.

An article in the September/October 2000 issue of "Skeptical Inquirer" magazine investigated ear candling, and thoroughly debunked the notion that burning these candles removes wax from one's ear, and help to treat a whole host of medical problems. Also, the Quackwatch home page has an article debunking ear candling at this location: <http://www.quackwatch.com/01QuackeryRelatedTopics/candling.html>.

I realize that Ms. Henchey finds this practice to be rather entertaining, although I would like to ask if she truly does believe that ear candling really does help her hearing. (It could just be the classic "placebo effect.")

Although Ms. Henchey states that ear candling provides "very pleasurable sensations," I hope she never gets any wax in her ears. Actually, I really hope that she realizes that her money can be spent on other aurally stimulating pleasures that don't involve a lot of fire (your everyday average rock concert, perhaps.) And if someone does feel like their ears are clogged with enough wax to actually make an ear candle, go to a pharmacy and buy some ear wax removal liquid. It will cost much more, of course, but would you rather trust a major pharmaceutical company that's been in business for years, or an outfit that claims that quartz crystals make your hair grow longer?

Rebecca Rudeen,
freshman

**What do you want
to see in your
campus newspaper?
Send your ideas to
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Where do you plan on getting the news next week?

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Features

Student teachers take on real classroom responsibilities

By Lauren Grosso
Features Editor

Senior Emily Greaves' greatest student teaching reward came when one of her students wrote her a letter in broken French.

A major in both French and elementary education, Greaves taught her class about 160 French words.

A week or two before most students arrived on campus after winter break, student teachers were already working in area classrooms.

When St. Michael's students take on a student teaching semester "the students belong to the school [they teach at]. They are not on a St. Michael's schedule," said David Leo-Nyquist assistant professor and coordinator of secondary education.

While student teachers do not follow the St. Michael's schedule, they have breaks, according to the school's calendar they teach at.

Being out of sync with St. Michael's timetable has not become a problem for most student teachers. Senior Emily Denbow, who is a student teacher at Champlain Valley Union High School in Hinesburg, is not affected by the schedule difference. Denbow and Greaves enjoy the hands-on experience of a student-teaching semester.

Greaves taught at Summit Street School in Essex Junction last semester. "It's having a full-time job," Greaves said. "I've learned that I can be really happy and really stressed at the same time, which makes me feel that this is the right career," she said.

The discipline needed for a student teaching semester has helped shape Denbow's future. "Before, I didn't have a foundation. This has given me the foundation to be a good teacher," Denbow said.

Education majors find discipline necessary for lesson planning and for being prepared to teach each day.

Each education student must take on a teaching semester, education professor Judith Hillman said. The students teach five days a week and keep the same hours as professional teachers.

According to Registrar John Sheehy, 265 students enrolled at St. Michael's have taken or will take on a student-teaching semester. There are 193 students in the elementary education major, and 72 students are working toward licensure in secondary education.

Secondary education is not an offered major at St. Michael's, but students may take courses to obtain a license in secondary education, Leo-Nyquist said.

The semester prior to student teaching is spent observing school-age children in many area classrooms. St. Michael's students get a feeling of what grade and at what school they would

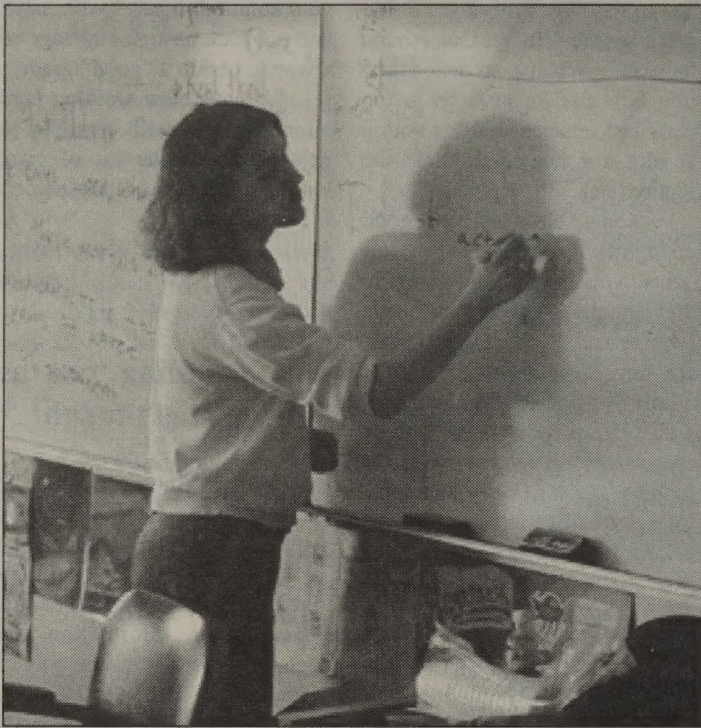


Photo by Rebecca Bazinet

Senior Emily Denbow gives an English lesson to her senior class at Champlain Valley Union High School.

like to teach. From there, an application process begins where students apply for a student-teaching internship, Nyquist said.

Once in the classroom, student teachers gradually take on the responsibilities of the classroom teacher they are working with.

Denbow, who decided to get her license in secondary education last year, is teaching English to high school seniors and sophomores this semester.

Denbow chose English out of 11 different majors that offer secondary education licensure, Leo-Nyquist said.

Denbow had known her students prior to her student teaching semester through her observation classes.

"After the first week the students are used to you," she said.

Denbow has "complete creative control" of her classroom, she said.

Just into the seventh week of student teaching she was the only teacher in the classroom; she planned the lessons.

"You really have to love it; if you don't, you won't take the time to prepare," Denbow said.

Greaves agrees and said, she spent long nights planning her lessons and learned to balance time.

Elementary education majors must major in a second subject.

"Pick a double major you are interested in and you can possibly bring that into the classroom," Greaves said.

In her classroom Greaves was at first surprised to be the teacher and not a student. At St. Michael's her teaching instincts take over as she sits in class, thinking she should be doing the teaching.

In her second grade class, Greaves teaches the basic ele-

"You really have to love it; if you don't, you won't take the time to prepare."

Emily Denbow,
senior

mentary content units as well as French.

"It's funny to hear the students' pronunciation," she said.

Although, she is now adjusted to her students, she said. "The initial interactions with students are testing."

"Students want to see if you are a friend or authority figure," Greaves said.

Haiti Solidarity Week

SMC recognizes Haiti two years in a row

By Lauren Grosso
Features Editor

Their connection has spanned nearly a decade and was solidified in 1994.

St. Michael's has been in solidarity with Haiti since French professor Joseph Ferdinand and English professor Kathleen Balutansky, both Haitian born, made the college aware of the country's vast problems. In 1994 the President of Haiti Jean-Bertrand Aristide spoke on campus to share the struggles within Haiti's government, Ferdinand said.

At the time of his talk on campus, Aristide was exiled from Haiti when the military seized government control. By coming to campus, Aristide made some people in the St. Michael's community eager to help the people of Haiti, Balutansky said.

Since that year, St. Michael's has remained in unity with Haiti. The college supports humanity for the human condition and Haiti struggles for it, Balutansky said.

Last week was dubbed Haiti Solidarity Week at the college: a week to reflect on Haiti's struggles, to learn about the truth of Haiti and to seek out the positive in the country.

"We are focusing on the good aspects," Ferdinand said. He wants Haiti to be seen as more than a country ridden with violence and poverty.

Lectures, films and exhibits were in place last week to celebrate Haiti. The MOVE book sale was held to benefit the Haitian educational project. "The Serpent and the Rainbow," a film trivializing Voodoo was shown to debunk the negativity

"Haiti's story is fascinating, because it is the only time in the world when slaves revolted and won."

Joseph Ferdinand,
French professor

surrounding the religion.

"It is a week of awareness of a people struggling for democracy," Balutansky said. "It's the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere."

The solidarity with Haiti doesn't end after a week. MOVE sponsors extended service trips to Haiti and Balutansky gathers student help to aid Haitians usually through monetary donations.

In May 2000, St. Michael's students accompanied Balutansky to Haiti, where they painted beds at the Albert Schweitzer hospital.

To become involved with Haiti relief work:

Contact Kathleen Balutansky at Ext. 2640, or stop by St. Edmund's Hall room 338.



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Features

They're back; alumni can't stay away

By Rhonda Miner
Executive Editor

When George Goldsworthy was a St. Michael's student there was a smoking room in the dining hall and regular keg parties in the quarries across Vermont 15.

"Times have changed," said Goldsworthy, manager of St. Michael's Printing and Mailing services. "Just in the past 10 years litigation has changed attitudes."

Goldsworthy, who graduated from St. Michael's in 1993 with a degree in political science, said the times aren't the only things a'changin'.

The Rev. Brian Cummings, S.S.E., who graduated in 1986, said the greatest changes he sees are geographic. The library was still called "the doughnut," classes were held mainly on North Campus (St. Edmund's Hall had not been built), and students fought over the small gym in Ross Sports Center.

Goldsworthy, however, said the student body is also like "night and day."

The summer he graduated, Goldsworthy was offered a job for \$5 an hour in the post office, which he had run the year before as a work-study student. He refused to do it for so little.

In October, the college offered him better pay, and the rest, he said, "is an American success story."

There are 73 alumni working at the college, in both full- and part-time positions, said Travis Gray, director for advancement services.

While Gray said he doesn't have figures of other institutions to compare to, he thinks St. Michael's has more alumni employees than other colleges.

Sarah Ferland, the women's second assistant basketball coach, was hired the week before her 1999 graduation.

"It kind of happened actually during senior week," she said. The head coach called and offered Ferland the job.

"In terms of doing something you love and want to do, it's been great," Ferland said.



Photo by Rebecca Bazinet
Jerome Monachino, a St. Michael's graduate, conducts the St. Michael's liturgical choir Sunday evening in the chapel.

Ferland's transition from being a student to having her name on the payroll wasn't always easy. "It's been an obvious transition going from player to coach," she said.

"It was probably tougher my first year, last year, because there were three seniors [on the team] I'd played with for three years," she said.

Admission Counselor Lael Croteau also suffered through transitioning.

"It's been tough — there are certain things you can do as a student that you can't do as a staff member," Croteau said of added responsibilities. "It's not bad, it's just different."

Croteau said the most difficult part of the transition has been finding people to spend time with socially, since most of her friends from college moved away from the area.

Unlike many alumni who work at St. Michael's, Cummings, who was an accounting major, did not go straight from being a student to being on staff.

He worked for Price Waterhouse, now called Price Waterhouse Cooper, a CPA firm, for about three years, then worked in New York City for a year and a half.

Cummings said professors he had at St. Michael's influenced his decision to join the Society of St. Edmund. "It's guys like Father Joe [McLaughlin] who inspired me to be a priest and a teacher," he said.

The S.S.E. assigned him to teach accounting at St. Michael's. "I'm assigned — if I would've been assigned somewhere else, I would have gone somewhere else," he said.

Croteau said she hadn't planned to stay at St. Michael's, either. "I wasn't really sure what I was going to do; I was sort of just dealing with senior year," she said.

An announcement of the position was sent out to the entire class. "I thought it would be perfect for me," Croteau said. "I thought I'd do a good job selling the school."

Croteau was an education major, with a focus in secondary education. "I love the age group, and I love St. Mike's," she said.

Goldsworthy said he's stayed at St. Michael's for similar reasons.

"It's continued to grow on me," he said. "The kids [work-study students] have been absolutely super — they keep me young."

Then

Now



Lael Croteau in 2000.



Sarah Ferland in 1999.



George Goldsworthy in 1993.

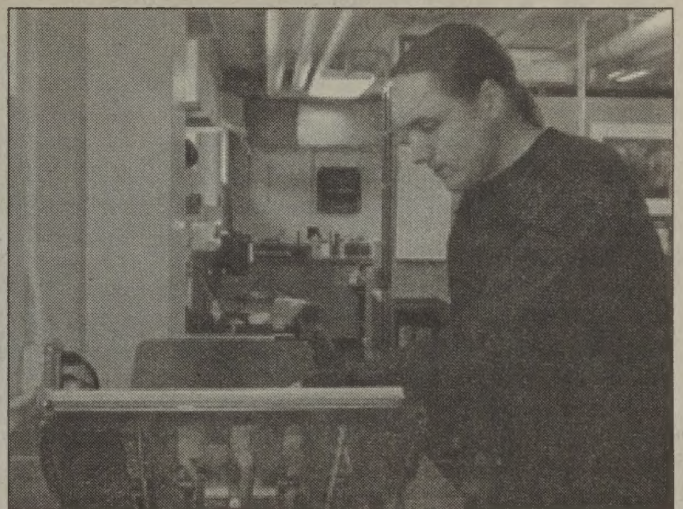
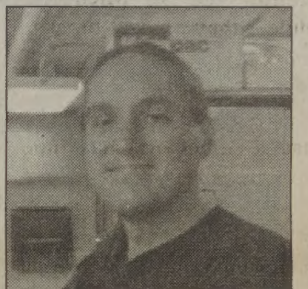


Photo by Rebecca Bazinet
George Goldsworthy, a 1993 St. Michael's alumnus, is the manager of Printing and Mailing services.

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Features

The fine art

A St. Michael's alumnus

By Luke Stafford
Staff Writer

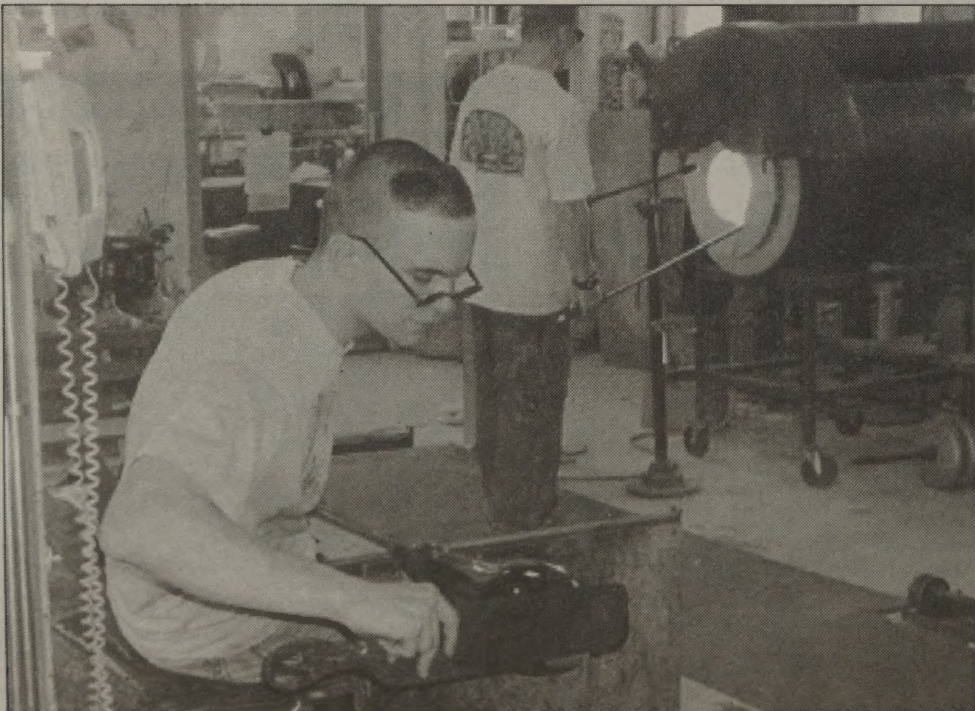
Photos by Rebecca Bazinet
Photo Editor



William D'Errico shapes a molten glob of glass.



Chawna Cota uses a jax, special oversized tweezers, to widen the hole of the glass she is working on.



William D'Errico creates a bottom to the piece of glass he has been busy shaping.

First-degree burns dot the forearms of St. Michael's alumnus Mike Richardson.

"I get a few burns every day," Richardson said while rotating a glob of molten glass on a six-foot pipe. "You get used to it."

2,300-degree temperatures, first-degree burns and glowing, honey-like glass are all part of a day's work for Richardson and the other glass blowers at Church and Maple Glass Studio in downtown Burlington.

The practice of transforming more than a handful of sand into a colorful glass bowl was perfected hundreds of years ago by Italians on a small island off the coast of Venice. Church and Maple uses the same process, known as "soft glass blowing," in its studio today.

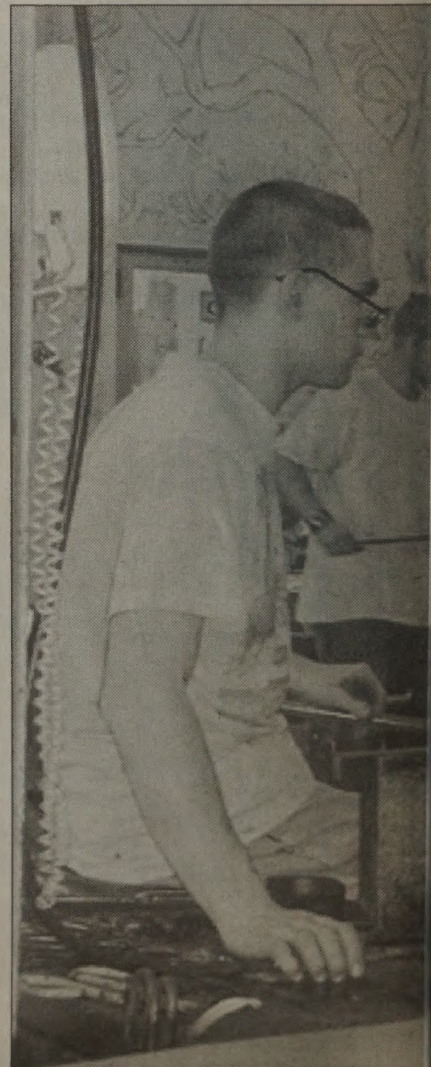
The first step is heating the silicon-based sand, called batch, to 2,300 degrees Fahrenheit in a \$15,000 super furnace. The furnace heats batch all hours of the day. After at least 12 hours of meltdown, the molten glass is ready for coloration and design.

A fist-sized glob of molten glass is spooned onto the end of a hollow pipe. The glass is rolled in crushed silicon powder of various colors and melted into the glass several times to add color and design. The apprentice and the gaffer are ready to shape the glass.

The hollow pipe is blown into to create a bubble inside the goopy glass as it is continually spun to counter the effects of gravity. After the bubble brings the glob to the size of a grapefruit, a hole is opened in the top. A special tool called a jax, which resembles an oversized pair of tweezers, is used to widen the hole. The bowl is reheated in the glowing "glory hole" furnace every minute or so to keep the glass malleable.

After about 20 minutes of coloration and shaping, the bowl is carefully broken off the pipe and placed in a giant computerized oven called an annealer. The bowls inside are gradually cooled from an original 900 degrees until they reach room temperature. If cooled too quickly, the glass will crack or explode.

Bud Shrimmer, Church and Maple owner and master in



Features

of blowing

creates art of molten sand

glass works – or “gaffer” – said a big part of glass blowing is “knowing when and where to use the heat.”

Shrimer, a white-haired man wearing ripped, khaki shorts and a spotted T-shirt, opened Church and Maple after a career in neurochemistry. His background in physics helped with the technical side of glass blowing.

The tools used today in soft glass blowing are the same as those used centuries ago: wooden paddles of various shapes, a wet, folded up newspaper (Church and Maple prefers the New York Times for its limited smudging), and a good set of lungs to blow molten bubbles.

Church and Maple studio chiefly sells its products wholesale – in mail-order catalogs and at glass and craft shows. At the studio, however, is a display set aside for walk-in customers, showing everything from broaches to shot glasses. The studio also creates custom pieces.

Richardson said his main love is painting, although he would someday like to open a glass studio. Richardson graduated from St. Michael's in 2000 with a degree in fine arts. He specialized in oil painting but he has been blowing glass for the past seven years. He has worked at Church and Maple for the past two years as an apprentice, learning the trade to someday become a gaffer.

In addition to working at Church and Maple, Richardson blows smoking pieces in his spare time and sells them to Full Tank on Church Street in Burlington. His smoking pieces are characterized by a small fish embedded in a bubble on the outside of the pieces.

Glass pieces blown for head shops require a different process from the soft glass blowing at Church and Maple. According to Richardson, most smoking pieces use tempered glass, which can handle direct flames, and are blown from rods already formed into glass of varying colors.

Vermont is second only to Washington in soft glass production, said Richardson.

Anyone interested in a career in the glass business should first learn the basics at a shop or studio, Richardson said. There are several glass blowing schools in the Northeast that teach blowers the artistic side of glass.

“It’s a great job,” said Richardson, while pulling a stray air bubble out of freshly colored glass.

William D’Errico rolls the molten glass on the table top to shape it in the correct form so he can blow it and transform it into something beautiful.



Mike Richardson and William D’Errico light their globs of glass in the “glory holes,” the giant furnaces used to keep the glass malleable so they can work with it easily.

William D’Errico puts the finishing touches on his glass, while St. Michael’s alumnus Mike Richardson and Chawna Cota heat more glass in the giant furnace.



Chawna Cota helps William D’Errico form his glass into just the right shape after he has blown it into a bubble.

Features

Campus Speaks

What would you leave the college as the senior class gift?



"I would leave a robot in Ryan Hall that would shoot anyone who pulls fire alarms."

Dave Davis,
freshman



"A dark room."

Amy D'Antonio,
sophomore



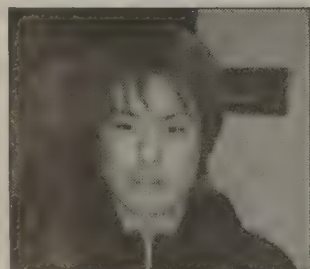
"They already have about \$100,000 of my money. What else do they want?"

Caleb Smart,
senior



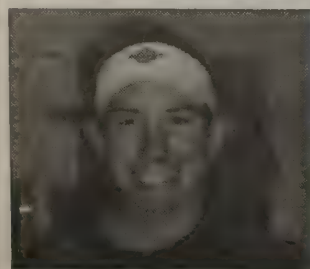
"Better food."

Hillary Cunningham,
junior



"A grand piano."

Takayuki Arima,
SIS



"I would leave co-ed housing."

Ryan Dente,
sophomore

The maple syrup process, an SMC student looks on



Photo by Rebecca Bazinet

Jacques Couture feeds the fire to keep maple syrup boiling at Couture's Sugarhouse in Westfield.

A commentary on tapping trees in Vermont

By Rebecca Bazinet
Staff Editor

Driving through Vermont's Northeast Kingdom can be quite an experience. The snow banks must be at least seven or eight feet tall. Deer scrounge for food among the bare trees and sugarhouses dot the roads; their smoke and steam billowing out of the tops of their chimneys.

Situated on a hill on Sugarhouse Road in Westfield is Couture's Sugarhouse. The Coutures have been in the syrup business for more than 30 years. Their son Denis is a junior at St. Michael's. They have evolved with the times and now have made quite a business out of selling maple products. They offer a mail-order service and also have their products available on the Internet.

Through it all they have managed to keep their business family-oriented. In each brochure they include a bit about a recent family event, such as their son Rene's recent marriage. "People like to know who they are buying things from," Pauline Couture said.

The Couture's produce all

four grades of maple syrup, Vermont fancy, Grade A Medium Amber, Grade A Dark Amber, and Vermont Grade B. The different grades are determined by the colors of the syrup. The darker the syrup the lower the grade. Sugar makers have no control over what grade the syrup is going to be when they are making it; it all depends on the weather.

As the weather starts warming up the sap begins to flow from the trees, usually in late winter to early spring. The Coutures use special taps that are made smaller to allow the trees to heal faster. They also have pipelines that carry the sap down from the trees so they don't have to use the traditional bucket method of collecting sap.

The clear sap travels down the hill and into a holding tank in the sugarhouse where it is boiled in an evaporator until it reaches a temperature of about 219 degrees. The density is then tested by floating a hydrometer and a thermometer in a sampling of syrup until it floats between the two lines.

In order to keep the syrup boiler going, Jacques Couture

must feed the fire often. In the shed connecting to the sugarhouse is a depleted stack of wood. Earlier this spring the shed was full. Sugaring is a year-round job. Even when the sap isn't flowing, the Coutures spend time taking care of their trees, and chopping wood for next year.

After the syrup is deemed to be the correct consistency, Jacques has rigged up a system using old milking equipment to pump the syrup to a filtering machine where any impurities or particles that may be in the syrup are removed. From there they are ready to be bottled or packaged to be sold.

Maple syrup can be used for more than just eating on pancakes or french toast. It can also be used in recipes, eaten on ice cream, or used as a glaze on meat. During the rest of the month of April, sugar houses will be continuing to make maple syrup and host "sugar-on-snow" parties. Many Vermont sugar makers will also participate in the Vermont Maple Festival held in St. Albans on April 27 to 29.



Photo by Rebecca Bazinet

Jacques Couture tests the density of the maple syrup.

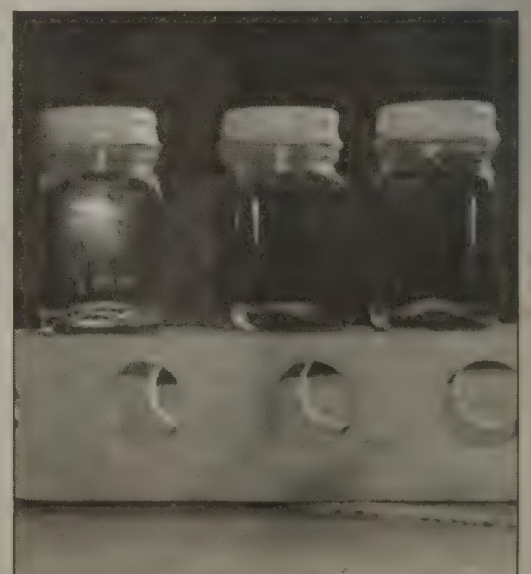


Photo by Rebecca Bazinet

The Coutures sell different grades of maple syrup.

Arts and Entertainment

Horoscopes

By the Optimistic Idiot



Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Your interest in solving mysteries has become even more pronounced than usual. How this desire to know will manifest itself is in your hands: Use it for good, not evil.



Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You are thinking about relationships even more than usual (if that is possible). While it is great to think about things in a logical fashion there is also such a thing as over-thinking a situation.



Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) According to the chart I'm looking at, you are working hard lately. You are also aggressively pursuing some sort of material possession. Coincidence? I think not.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) People who listen to you speak find a strange amount of wisdom. I say "strange" because the way that you have been expressing yourself lately has been slightly jumbled and odd, but insightful, nonetheless.



Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Stop bottling up your feelings and expressing yourself through passive aggression – it's unhealthy. Instead, try to see that you have the power over your life – take control or stop complaining.



Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) With your ruling planet (Uranus) staying in your sign, and the two power planets (Mars and Pluto) in your solar 11th house (also ruled by Uranus), you probably feel more like yourself than ever. (I hope that wasn't too confusing.)



Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) As your working streak continues, it might occur to you that all this concentration on the concrete has caused you to lose a bit of the abstract you used to carry with you constantly. While I don't suggest retreating completely to the dream world, try to take the time to at least visit.



Aries (March 21-April 19) With Mercury in your sign your energy level is high and you might be just bursting to talk. Talking with your friends about your journey might be helpful – they may be full of insight.



Taurus (April 20-May 20) Rather than harping on your work ethic, I will point out that by the 21st that ethic will be fading, so take advantage of it. And what is this strange pursuit of the remotely mysterious?



Gemini (May 21-June 21) You are more impulsive than usual and your thoughts have turned from the contemplation of the insubstantial toward how such things can be made manifest. Your friends will be able to help with the endeavor.

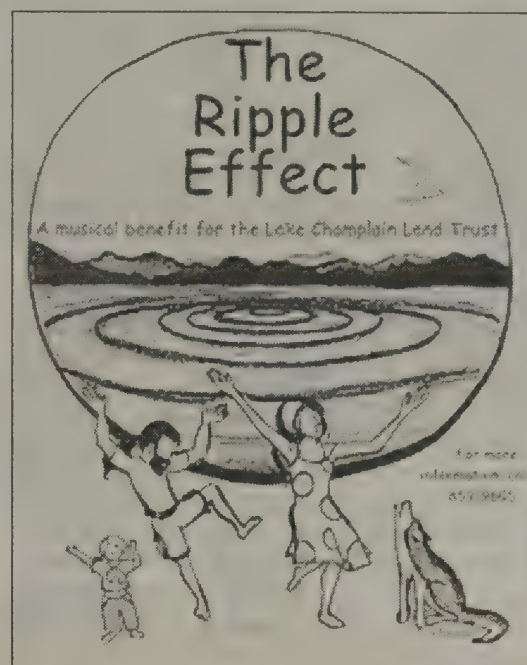


Cancer (June 22-July 22) It seems like all your energies are being poured into work. Take advantage of this will to work and you won't be frazzled by the time finals come along. Congratulations on getting a head start.



Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Your philosophical side will keep shining through as things continue to be looking up for you, Leo. Go ahead and be your cheerful self: Strut your stuff.

St. Michael's Calendar April 11-29



Art by Lisl Kuklinski

On April 19 Contraband is playing a benefit concert at Halvorson's Upstreet Cafe on Church Street.

Other Events

- April 19** *"The Ripple Effect," a musical benefit for the Lake Champlain Land Trust featuring music from Contraband, at Halvorson's Upstreet Cafe (Church Street, Burlington), 8 p.m., 21+, \$8, produced by St. Michael's seniors Jacqueline Lecce and Mike Lombard. For more information call 859-9605.
- *Second annual Study Abroad Photography Competition, awards ceremony, Dailey Room, Durick Library second floor, 3:30-5 p.m., sponsored by department of journalism and mass communication and the study abroad office.
- April 29** *Catie Curtis, with Gregory Douglass, a concert to benefit the Peace and Justice Center, 135 Pearl (Pearl Street, Burlington), 7 p.m., 21+, \$15, tickets on sale at Peace and Justice Store (Church Street, Burlington), produced by WWPV's Bitchin' Radio and ALLY.

MOVE Events

For more info about these events, stop by the MOVE office or call Ext. 2674

- April 11** *Afterschool games at the Boys and Girls Club, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
*Play Bingo with senior citizens, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
*Free the Planet! meeting, anyone interested in environmental issues and/or Earth Day planning is welcome to attend, MOVE office, 8 p.m.
- April 12** *Volleyball at the correctional center, 5-7 p.m.
*Afterschool games at the Boys and Girls Club, 3-5 p.m.
- April 27** *St. Michael's Earth Day sponsored by Free the Planet!

School for International Studies Events

- April 11** *International Coffee Hour, celebrate Colombian culture with students from Gimnasio Vermont, music, dancing and a poster display, free coffee and cookies, St. Edmund's foyer, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

SMC Film Series

- April 17** "The Official Story," presented by Patrick Barr-Melej, history, free refreshments, McCarthy Recital Hall, 7 p.m.
- April 25** "Basquiat," presented by Amy Werbel, art, free refreshments, McCarthy Recital Hall, 7 p.m.
- May 2** "The Graduate," presented by David Mindich, journalism and mass communication, free refreshments, McCarthy Recital Hall, 7 p.m.

Library Information Services Events

For more info or to register for these events e-mail lisworkshops@smcvt.edu or call Michele at Ext. 2411

- April 18** *"Walk-in Clinic for FrontPage, PowerPoint and Scanning," join Cynthia Kelley, Steve Burks, Ann Kenney for this hands-on opportunity to ask the experts, Jean Marie 166, 10:30 a.m.-noon.
- April 20** *"Powerpoint for Beginners," a clinic on PowerPoint, presentation software that lets you do slide shows and create handouts, Jeanmarie 142, 3-4 p.m.

Center for Social Services Research Seminar Series

- April 12** *"A Decade in the Life of Vermonters: Change and Stability," with professors Vincent Bolduc (sociology) Herb Kessel (economics) and Edward Mahoney (associate dean), Farrell Room, noon-1 p.m.

Coffeehouse Music Series

- April 11** *The Slip, Alliot Hall lobby, 8 p.m.

Senior Art Project Exhibitions

- April 11-30** *Rachel Hays, (April 11-15), Jennifer Rankow (April 16-22), Casandra Ruff (April 23-30), Sloane Gallery, free.

The calendar staff would like to thank all campus organizers who submitted their events. Please do so again next year.

Arts and Entertainment

Rich guys always finish first



By Josh Cook
Columnist

The story of the year is coming to an end and it's time to look at some of the lessons this year has taught us. We were lucky, or unlucky, depending on how you look at it, to have had a tumultuous year on campus, as well as in the wider world. Our little bubble here at St. Mike's was invaded by the laws of the "real world" and I think we've been shown some of the attitudes that come from that world.

One of the first things we learned this year is that we are capable, as a nation, of electing George W. Bush as the leader of the free world. For all you Republicans, this shows that our country is ready to follow the blazing torch of a true leader into a bright utopian future. For the rational world, it means it's time to clean out the old bomb shelter. We won't really know the effects of this election for many years, but he's already lied about his environmental policies, had two diplomatic "problems" in Asia, and already has a sitcom made about him. This does not bode well for the future.

I think the most powerful lessons this year came on campus, and they are so powerful because they really tell us something about this grand old system we live in. We were enraged by the Watson Wyatt report because it threatened to dismantle, downsize and outsource the community that has been built at St. Michael's for the last 100 years.

The tragedy is that Watson Wyatt's suggestions are unbelievably common in the business world. I wonder what percentage of graduating seniors are going to have their future jobs downsized, out-

sourced, or cut to part time. Capitalism doesn't care about communities and it doesn't care if you care about communities. Furthermore, it doesn't care if your job is fulfilling or fun, and it sure as hell doesn't care if you're happy in life. We were able to temporarily fight the disease here on campus, but I wonder how much longer it will be before capitalism turns St. Michael's and every other community or institution that we hold dear into just another business.

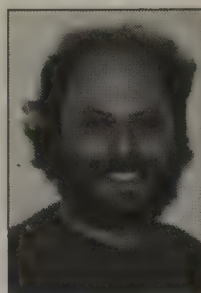
The third lesson, I think, is pending, but we will see it. The most that can happen to Peter Worrell for mistreating students, being oblivious to their wants and needs, and in general being blatantly arrogant, is that he'll get a vote of no-confidence in the Student Association, which, given his opinion about the S.A., doesn't mean anything to him.

Rich people don't get punished in our society. A white-collar crime, a rich person's crime like fraud, a crime that could ruin many people's financial lives, will earn the criminal a fine and a few years in a minimum-security prison. A crime like selling marijuana, a poor person's crime where no one really seems to get hurt, could get someone 25 years in a maximum security prison and in some states, could cost the "criminal" his right to vote. Rich people can get out of anything, even the draft, and Worrell will get out of this mess without a scratch.

This year the school has provided us a couple of good lessons about our capitalistic society. If you think a community's well being is important, and if you think all people should be held accountable for their actions, you might want to rethink how you feel about capitalism.

But the sun does eventually come out, and spring does eventually begin. Maybe that's an especially necessary lesson at the end of the year. Eventually spring will come, it might come after the demise of the human race, but spring is spring whether we're here to enjoy it or not. I think we can change, can melt the snow ourselves, can bring spring in time for us to enjoy it. For that to happen, though, we're going to have to change the way we see the world and how we live in it, but I think we can do it.

Watson, Wyatt and me



By Tom Kingston
Guest Columnist

The much-talked-about package of recommendations from Watson Wyatt Worldwide suggests many answers to many questions. Unfortunately, each Watson Wyatt answer evokes dozens more questions that need to be thoroughly examined in order to avoid a boondoggled strategy.

One of the Watson Wyatt "suggestions" is to reduce tuition remission from 100 percent to 70 percent. What does that mean? Presently, dependents of employees at St. Michael's College can be full-time students, and employees may take up to three classes per year at no cost (or 100 percent remission). This policy is typical of the fringe benefit packages offered by post-secondary institutions. If the policy changes to 70 percent, then these students would have to pay 30 percent of the tuition.

Tuition remission is an excellent tool for colleges to attract and retain employees. They already have the entire educational system in place, so it is easy to absorb a few extra students through the tuition remission policy. It's kind of like my previous job as a dishwasher in a restaurant when I was allowed to have all the hamburgers and soda I could shove in.

I'm not quite sure why Watson Wyatt suggested that we decrease the tuition remission.

If the goal was to attract and retain more qualified faculty, then that would defeat the purpose. Even if St. Michael's were to increase salaries for faculty, the cost of putting a couple of kids through college at the Watson Wyatt suggested 30 percent of tuition would decimate the value of the raise. Professors with children would be drawn to any one of a number of institutions that have a better deal.

If the goal was to raise money by charging 30 percent tuition, then there would be no gain. Once again, prospective faculty would sneeze at an opportunity to interview for a position at St. Michael's, meaning no new money for the college. Similarly, staff members who use the tuition remission policy would simply find better deals at neighboring colleges. There has been some discussion about "grandfathering" current employees. I haven't seen anything in writing and grandfathering is irrelevant for those who will be "outsourced" (which brings up another myriad of questions). Grandfathering merely serves as a technique to deflect debate on how this proposal relates to the future of St. Michael's College.

If the goal was to save money, I'm not sure what the Watson Wyatt consultants were thinking. Did they think dissuading participation in tuition remission would cause enough of a decline in demand for student resources that the college could eliminate a faculty position, or hire one fewer person in the Registrar's Office? Probably not.

My parents taught me not to boast, but I am going to make an exception. This semester I'm taking Math 101. On the quiz that was handed back on Monday, I got a 10 out of 10. Consequently, I gained the confidence to gather statistical information from the registrar and the human resources department, from which I extrapolated this: If you are a typical full-time student, the odds are that only one or two of your classmates are tuition-remission students. That is not enough to make a huge impact on the actual costs of administering the program.

Did Watson Wyatt gather data to understand how our community is affected by the policies they suggest we change? Or forecast the impact of these changes? I doubt it.

As a student, one of the things I like to do is hold study sessions on nights before exams. Going over the material with my classmates increases the likelihood that I will get good grades on my exams. One student, Donald (not his real name) got a 69 on his first exam. He came to my last study session and the following morning he earned an 84. Donald credits me with having enabled him to get the higher score – but don't tell the consultants! They don't have a column on

What's up with all the negative press about St. Michaels?



By Nicholas J. Callanan
Arts and Entertainment

One day about halfway through this semester, a small group of us St. Michael's students sat around and discussed campus issues. We traded views on outsourcing, the housing shortage, the keg-in-townhouse rule, sudden employment terminations, the food at Marriott ... it was basically a bitch-session about our college.

Then one woman alarmed the rest of the group by taking offense to our conversation. Emphatic about the love she held for her college – and knowing I

wrote a column for the college paper – she asked me why the Defender's columnists never had anything positive to say about St. Michael's.

So, in honor of her – and all the seniors making up the first graduating class of the third millennium – here goes:

Marriott's chocolate-chip cookies are the best on either side of Lake Champlain. (Did you know that at Greensleaves, the cash register code for those big chocolate-chip cookies is B.A.C. ["Big-Ass Cookies"]?)

There's an excellent climbing tree in the vicinity of the library (you'll have to find it for yourself).

In what has become a tradition, every year the person who lives in Joyce Hall above the mail room always plays good, loud music.

Doug the friendly North Campus bus driver: super cool and always on time (he's so cool he went to see B.B. King at the Flynn each of the last two years).

Small, shallow thoughts

The library has a diverse collection of free movies.

The train tracks across the street are a good place to take a walk even when there is three feet of snow on the ground everywhere else ... but use caution; and please don't make the fatal mistake of wearing ear muffs that impede your hearing.

St. Patrick's Day.

The outdoor basketball courts in the Tarrant parking lot give students the choice of playground hoops (note to the owner of a white Dodge Minivan: If you do not move your vehicle from under the basketball hoop soon, we WILL get you. Signed, disgruntled ballers.)

P-Day.

Ben and Jerry's on your meal card is the bomb.

The kick-ass soccer field (a high school friend, who played ball for Springfield, told me it

was the nicest grass he's ever been on).

The campus is flat.

Marc vanderHeyden is always talking about that breathtaking view of Mt. Mansfield ... yo prez, you right!

Those church bells ... I don't care if it's a recording or not.

The fact that the other day in the Ryan Hall parking lot I walked past 17 cars in a row with "St. Michael's College" bumper stickers on them.

Free Defenders.

On any given day, some group, somewhere on campus is serving coffee and cookies – for free.

The church band and choir.

That people say hello and hold doors for each other.

Parking on the 300s field.

Unlimited use of an Olympus C3000X digital camera with registering for JO 251, Digital Photography.

Random phone jacks in Alliot Hall without long distance blocks (uhh, so I've heard ...).

The water is drinkable right from the faucet.

No discrimination against smokers smoking in their rooms (at least not while I was here).

A plan to freshen the air in residence halls by outlawing smoking in them, beginning next year.

An incredibly intelligent faculty (check out the list of their degrees in the back of the course catalog and you'll see what I'm talking about).

Higher Ground.

A baseball diamond with a dead-center homerun fence that, at 667 feet, would keep even the longest major league homers in play.

And ... newspaper columnists who aren't afraid to point out organizational shortcomings.

Thanks to everybody who read my column this semester. Hey, if any of you make it up to northern Maine this summer, stop by the big ol' orange school bus on the side of 201 and say hello.

Good luck and good self.

Arts and Entertainment



'An awkward guy with a balancing deficiency' tries yoga for the first time

By Tim Simard
Staff Writer

Standing on my right leg, with my left leg and both arms stretched out in some strange position, I wondered what the hell I was doing. My leg muscles began to burn and beads of sweat formed on my forehead and dropped, slowly, to the mat below. My breathing became labored and my vision blurred as I tried not to collapse under the strain of my pudginess. Just as I thought I was about to fall down and kiss the floor, my instructor let me know I could relax and I let my left foot fall slowly to the floor.

I'm talking about yoga, of course: Last Wednesday's night yoga class in the Tarrant Center's aerobics room was my first experience with this 6,000-year-old Indian meditation exercise, and I had no idea what to expect. Before then, every time someone mentioned yoga I always had this funny picture in my head about people wearing spandex, crimped up in the lotus position and breathing heavily and evenly.

When I arrived at the aerobics room at 5:30 p.m., I sat nervously in the corner. Soon, the class members began to stream in and lay their mats on the floor. Piper Petrie, our instructor, has been teaching yoga for five years.

Before the class was about to start, the participants had already noticed the weird guy in the corner. I wasn't hard to miss – not because I was one of just three guys there, but because I was clueless on where to begin. Everybody was warming up around me, so I picked up some clues there. Luckily, Piper and a wonderful woman named Rose came by to teach me the basics. Rose even lent me her mat, which was a relief for me and a selfless act on her part.

They first taught me the basic warm-up. I watched once, and then attempted the second time. I must have looked like a fish out of water. I moved my arms into a prayer position, bent



Top: Sophomore Tim Simard (right) begins his first yoga class – April 4 in the aerobics room of the Tarrant Center – with some light stretching. Above: Tim (left) practices a warm-up posture next to a more seasoned yoga student. Bottom: Piper Petrie's yoga class moves in unison.

Photos by Nicholas J. Callanan

my back around and arched my body, all the while not forgetting to breathe.

"Exhale, one breath. Inhale, one breath. Now count five breaths," Piper said to the class.

I watched the class listen to her commands and perform the warm-ups in unison. They began to give me a better grasp on how to go about doing what I was doing.

"Keep your feet together and your fingers spread evenly along the mat," Piper reminded the class. I quickly took her advice, trying to avoid looking more awkward than I already did.

I later found out the names of the traditional warm-ups. The class began with what is called the Surya-namaskar. They are the first yoga postures you learn as a beginner. These look intimidating at first, but once I got a clue, I began to really get into them. I began breathing at a more even rate and I felt the Indian music playing over the speakers flow through me. It was chal-

lenging yet peaceful at the same time – that is, until we started getting into the hard stuff.

I learned that the weekly class had been focusing on "high-end physical yoga," as Piper had explained to me. It's a blend of both Ashtanga and Iyengar types of Yoga.

We started by adding variations to the warm-ups. Instead of simple stretches, we began on

strength. First, we attempted a posture involving balancing on your right leg with arms stretched out. After feeling the burn on that one, we alternated to the left leg, but having sprained my left ankle two weeks ago, I decided to sit that one out and watch.

What I saw impressed me. Most of the participants were easily balancing themselves in what looked like an effortless fashion, although I could see looks of concentration on their faces.

The next physical yoga position resembled a headstand – except you had to jump into it. I tried and promptly landed on my head! After seeing stars, I decided to leave that one alone. Apparently, I wasn't the only one having troubles: I heard more than one thud around the room.

After clearing away the endless stream of sweat from my brow, we began to the closing postures. Lying on our backs, we raised our legs above our heads and lifted up our bodies by our shoulders. We then were supposed to bend our legs

back behind our heads and stick our butts in the air. Piper came by and helped me with my balance. As she held my legs high, I worried about passing out. Being so tightly compressed cut off my ability to breathe well: Instead of even breaths, I was engaging in irregular gasps. Nonetheless, it was a surprisingly calming posture. Maybe it was the lack of oxygen to my brain or the soothing music that was playing. Whatever the reason, it was relaxing.

We then came to the end of our session, a posture called Shavasana. We lay on our backs and both instructors came by and massaged our feet and heads. It was the most relaxing part of my yoga exercise and capped off one of the strangest workouts I have ever had.

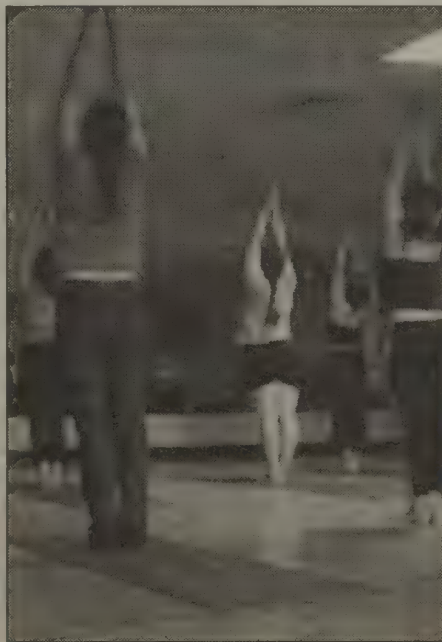
At the end, the class slowly left. Most were quiet with very content looks on their faces. I must have looked the same way. Piper commented on how well I did for my first time.

"Most people on their first time just sit and watch," Piper said.

I certainly hadn't been sitting and watching. And I am glad I hadn't. Walking out of the aerobics room, I felt better than I had in a while: exhausted, yet energized. Strange, I know. I had a wonderful sense of calm and contentness. I had never felt that way about a workout before. Then again, this wasn't your ordinary workout. This session opened my eyes to something new.

I know that I will soon try yoga again, and next time, maybe I won't look like an awkward guy with a balancing deficiency.

Yoga classes at St. Michael's take place every Wednesday from 5:45 to 7 p.m. The fee is \$20 for the entire semester. A summer session is also being offered. For more information contact Interactive Yoga Therapy certified instructor Piper Petrie at 862-9104 or Director of Intramurals Betsy Cieplicki at 654-2498



Arts and Entertainment

Vermont beer tour brews excitement

By John B. Benevento
Guest Writer

Late on a Friday morning I set out with my housemate, and sometimes St. Michael's student Daykin Marini. Our mission was to tour three Vermont breweries, record the atmosphere and sample the craft of each.

First stop: The Shed Restaurant and Brewery on Mountain Road in Stowe. Built with thick wood beams and displaying about 20 pairs of ancient wooden skis on the wall, The Shed is a great place to sip a mug. On this morning, it smelled like fireplace and bacon. The first beer we sampled was Shed Amber Ale. This is a good brew — not too heavy, not too light, solid and rich; it's perfect for a first-of-the-day. The Shed also has really good food and the onion soup is no exception: dark and sweet with huge chunks of onion and a good quarter-inch of melted cheddar on top.

The man at the next table turned out to be Harold Faircloth, the Shed's head brewer. He sat there eating his lunch, periodically getting up to check his brews. I asked him what The Shed's most popular beer is ... but I already knew the answer: "Mountain Ale both in The Shed and off the shelf," Faircloth said. The Shed brews five 200-gallon batches of Mountain Ale a week. I asked Faircloth what his favorite beer is — "Whatever's the freshest," he said, clearly a man of beer.

I couldn't have been happier when, after ordering a stout, the waitress said, "Actually, today we have porter." I love porter. A good one with thick, basic flavors slides down my throat much easier than, say, a super-hoppy India pale ale. Daykin is not a big fan

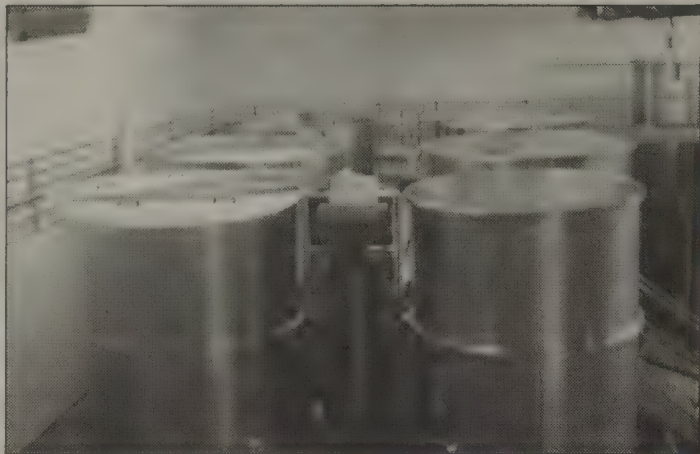


Photo by Nicholas J. Callanan

The Magic Hat Brewery on Bartlett Bay Road in South Burlington brews about 3,000 gallons of beer a day. These are the brewery's fermentation tanks.

of porter. "I lean more toward the bitter ales like Dog Bite Bitter [from Vermont Pub and Brewery]," he said. The Shed Porter was pitch black with a nice brown head, but it tasted like a really good beer — mixed with about a cup of water. C'est la vie.

Next stop, the Magic Hat Brewery, on Bartlett Bay Road in South Burlington. The most disappointing thing about the Magic Hat Brewery is its lack of a pub. With all its mystical style, Magic Hat should have the coolest beer-drinking room this side of paradise, but there is only a merchandise store. They only sell kegs and half-gallon growlers (bring back the bottle for two bucks off the next one) — but they do give free samples.

I'm a huge fan of the Hat's seasonal, bomber-bottled Single Chair Ale. It's tangy and fresh — the kind of thing to be swished around into the back of the cheeks before swallowed. Other than this, however, I think most of Magic Hat's brews are just mediocre. I sampled the famous #9, which the clerk told me accounts for half of Magic Hat's

sales. I hadn't had it in a while; it wasn't as flowery as I remembered/imagined, but my socks stayed firmly on my feet. Magic Hat's Blind Faith, an India pale ale, is good, but Heart of Darkness has that weird skunked beer taste noticeable in all but the best stouts.

The Vermont Pub and Brewery on College Street in Burlington is a great place to get a beer. The bar is in a long, narrow, glassed-in room which provides a 180-degree view of Burlington streetscape, and it always reminds me of being on a stopped, futuristic train. This is the home of my favorite porter — the Red Onion sandwich of beers — The Vermont Smoked Porter. The menu describes it: "Apple, maple and hickory smoked malts recreate 17th century flavors" — yum. Daykin thinks it tastes like a fireplace.

As the music in VPB changed from Jimmy Cliff's "The Harder They Come" to David Byrne's "Rei Momo" I finished the porter and ordered a '99 Wee Heavy Scotch Ale, which, super-strong ale that it is, comes

only in a half pint. "It'll knock you off your barstool" the bartender said. It didn't, but a full pint might have. The menu says it all: "Big, smooth and syrupy, cellared strong ale. Brewed Feb. 1, '99." Despite the cute little half-pint mug, this beer made me feel a bit like some medieval knight or monk slurping down mead. Another great thing about VPB is its staff: They're known to give out a few freebies and they don't mind late-night rough-housing among friends.

After my brew tour, I'd still have to say that the best glass of beer I've ever had is to be found only at The Longhorn Trout Tavern in Montgomery Center. Ten minutes from Jay Peak Resort, this establishment offers a brew specially made for it by the Long Trail Brewery: the Longhorn Trout Ale. It's the most wonderful thing on earth after a long day of riding on (and falling into) Vermont's best powder. It's just a hair darker than the regular Long Trail Ale, with some added flavor that really does remind me of trout, but in a good way.

The restaurant advertises itself as a haven for thirsty snowmobilers and skiers and has lots of couches, armchairs and big TVs; and there's always a raging fire. The hours are listed as "4:00 til ..." and there doesn't seem to be a clear line between customers and staff. They have enormous (though not drippy) hamburgers and all pints only cost \$2.50!

Since beer drinkers can't always travel around from brewery to brewery, local stores carry lots of selection. One of my favorite elements to the beer-drinking universe is the variety of bottles. There's the trusty old six-pack, and its more economical big brother, the 12-pack. Rite Aid (on Susie Wilson Road in Essex)

Informal Beer Survey

The Defender surveyed St. Michael's juniors and seniors to find out about their tastes in beer. Here is what we found:

Most popular Vermont-made beers:

Shed Mountain Ale
McNeill's Old Ringworm
Trout River Rainbow Red
Long Trail Ale

Most popular style of beer:

Ale
IPA
Stout
Lager
Porter

Miscellaneous Comments:

"Definitely some hard decisions."
"McNeill's is by far the best microbrew around!"
"Guinness is the ultimate dankness!"

This is not a scientific survey.

sells Long Trail twelve packs for \$9.99 — a good deal considering sixers usually cost upwards of six bucks.

If struck by the mood for a single, large beer, I recommend the 22 oz. "bomber" bottle. Not all brews come in this form, but some, like McNeill's (from Brattleboro) come only as bombers. Some beers, Shed and Rock Art most notably, come only in the half-gallon growler bottles. Having a growler is a wonderful thing — though not for the everyday drinking experience. Holding half a gallon of thick, raw beer in a huge glass jug is strangely satisfying — especially if I'm drinking it straight from the bottle. Note: Be careful not to get your finger stuck in the tiny handle of Shed's growlers (Rock Art's are bigger); I had to use soap and hot water to remove myself from one once.

A magical evening with Addison Groove Project, Topaz

By Nicholas J. Callanan
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Men wore baggy khakis, baggy corduroys and too-big t-shirts. One man wore pajama bottoms; he also had a pink furry scarf draped around his shoulders. He danced and danced; twirling his body around under the professionally controlled, colorful lights of the night club. I saw bare-footed women, spaghetti-strap tank tops accentuating their thawing winter shoulders; some had shiny bandanas holding back neatly manicured hair.

Men walked up to women and asked, "How do you do?" I saw my roommate standing close to a guy, talking. Before she introduced me, he gave me a look that said, "Go find your own girl, Buster." I saw in her smile that he was soon to be doing the same ...

A tall, thin man wearing black slacks, a blue shirt, a black jacket and glasses told me the band that was playing was so named because one of its members' father's was a pastor named



Photo by Nicholas J. Callanan

Addison Groove Project, pictured at their April 6 Higher Ground show, will play the Berkshire Festival and The Gathering of the Vibes music festivals this summer.

Addison; and it was the band's goal to get him groovin' to their music: Addison Groove Project.

Seemed about right for this night.

I talked to a husky, shaggy-haired high school senior from Albany who'd made the trip over to Winooski with a couple of his buddies ... we traded stories of

music shows gone by before I saw him and his friends wander awkwardly onto the dance floor. I watched them slowly accustom themselves to their new surroundings: tapping their feet to every other beat of the bass drum, moving their heads without stirring the rest of their bodies.

Then the guitar player went

into a tightly wound solo reeking of thunderstorm sex. I watched my high-schooler friend smile; he began to move his arms ... soon they were pumping. His cohorts followed suit.

As did I.

As did everyone.

One guy, who I had seen earlier in the evening begging with club staff to overlook some rule infraction and "please brother, you gotta let me back inside: My girlfriend's in there and we always dance together," swung a female friend behind his back and then she did the same. Their glances connected regularly during the funky groove; each one as vital as a breath of air. Both of them oblivious of me and everyone else, but the men making music on stage.

The music went on.

A man wearing dreadlocks, a vest and two shirts spun himself around on the stepped-up section of the dance floor. I wondered how long he could go before removing a layer.

One woman told me some

great stories about the guys on stage (... she said she had listened to them in 8th grade basements and in 4th grade she had taken clarinet lessons in school with the sax player: "I sucked so I quit, but he was goooood". ...) but she said she didn't want me to write any of it in the paper.

I spoke with the drummer before the show and he told me a that-afternoon-fresh story about the band's van's fanbelt blowing just 10 minutes after leaving Boston. Luckily, their sound guy happened to be driving an empty van to the show and they loaded their stuff into it. "We had to, man. This is a big show for us," he said.

And it was.

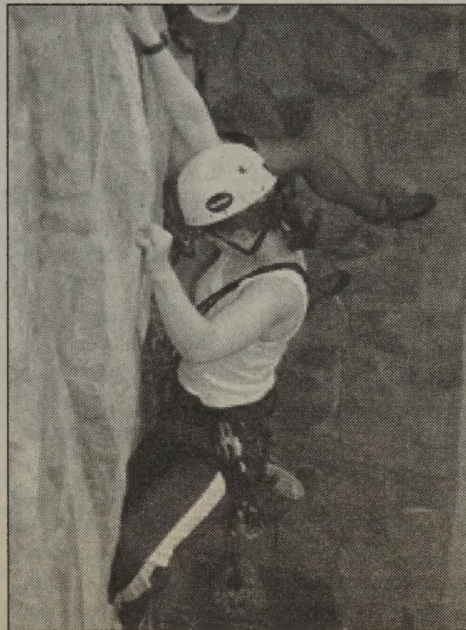
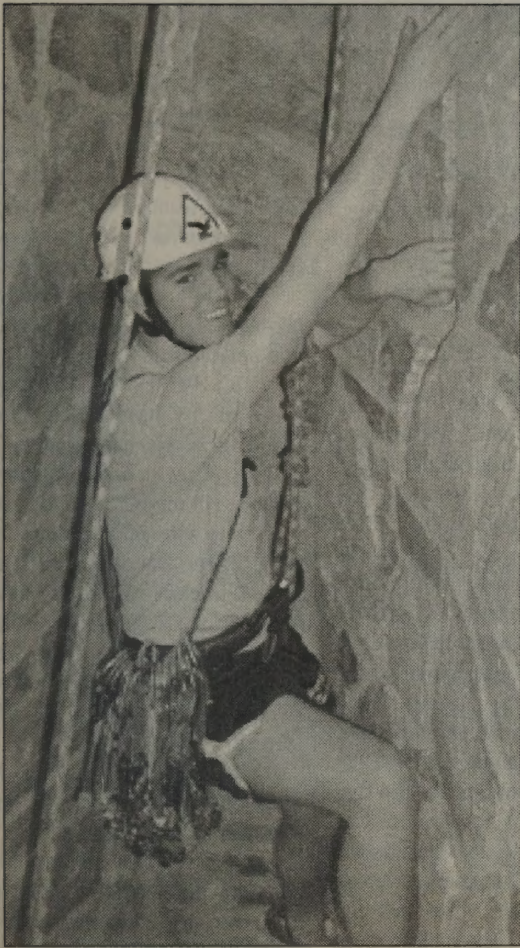
The lead man from the opening band — he and it both from New York City, and both named "Topaz" — held a bottle of beer in his hand as he jived into the microphone: "It's always a pleasure to come to Vermont — you guys rock. I hope you're ready to get down. I know you are."

And we were.

Sports

Above the rest

St. Michael's students climb in Ross Sports Center



Far left: Freshman Mark Oldmixon makes his way up the wall.

Left: Sophomore Kerry Donahue looks for the proper grip while honing her rock-climbing skills.

Top: Wilderness Program Director Todd Wright (right) looks down on participants with a fellow climber from the top of the wall.

Photos by Rebecca Bazinet

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Sports

A chat with Larry Kimball

Incoming women's cross country coach discusses his goals for the season to come, his love of running and Jim Ryun

By Carolyn Dube
Staff Writer

Interview

I was sitting on the floor stretching after a brisk three-mile run, when Larry Kimball entered the Tarrant Recreation Center. He and I chatted, while I finished stretching, about what I had been doing for running since I had last seen him. In the coming months, this is going to be a very common topic of discussion between Kimball and myself, as well as the other women returning to run on the St. Michael's Women's cross country team next year. The reason being that Larry Kimball was just appointed the head coaching position for the Lady Knights next year.

Kimball was born and raised in Burlington, Vermont. He completed grades one through 12 in the Essex Junction School system. After he completed high school, Kimball went on to Trinity College in Burlington. He graduated from Trinity with a bachelor's degree in History. From there he went to complete his master's degree at St. Michael's.

Kimball has remained in the area for his whole life, and currently lives in Essex Junction. Both Kimball and his wife love the area and are happy to be spending their lives in the

Burlington area.

He has been working for Verizon Wireless for the past 30 years with a lot of coaching on the side.

I finished stretching and Larry and I moved into the student lounge, where we could sit and talk, as well as keep a lookout for my teammates, who would be returning from their run shortly.

CD: So let's get down to it, first off, could you give me a brief history of your coaching background?

LK: I coached at Burlington High School as well as BFA Fairfax. Both high schools won a State Championship at my time spent there. I also coached distance teams under Ed Kusiak at The University of Vermont from 1990 until 1998. In 1993, we won the New England College Championship. In my time at UVM, I coached many New England champions as well as some NCAA conference qualifiers. But the most famous runner I have ever coached was a young woman named Shayne (Wille) Colepepper. Colepepper ran the 1500 at the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

CD: How about your own previous running experience?

LK: I'm a running junkie. I love it. I've been running for years. I ran my first race as a high school freshman in 1964. Over the years I've participated in many races throughout the country. Among those races I've run in 40 marathons. Nine of them were The Boston Marathon. Then there was also New York City and others.

CD: Are you currently training for anything in particular?

LK: Well nothing too serious. I'm running on a relay team for the Vermont City Marathon. But it is a very low key relay team. Very low key.

CD: OK. So in our first meeting with the team, you said something about having never missed an Olympic Marathon Trial since 1980. Can you tell me more about that?

LK: Sure, like I said I'm a real junkie. I've been to a lot of Olympic Trials. I have never qualified, but I did take John Dimick to Buffalo in 1980, he ran a 2-hour and 11-minute marathon. Yeah, so running is a real passion of mine. I've also done a lot of race organizing. I have helped to organize the Stowe Eight Mile Race in which 15 Olympians ran in. I've also served on the Executive Committee for the Women's Cross Country Association.

CD: Who would you say was your biggest inspiration in terms of running?

"I'm a running junkie. I love it."

Larry Kimble,
incoming women's
cross country coach

LK: Jim Ryun.

CD: Why is that?

LK: In the mid 1960s he was an up-and-coming high school runner. Sports Illustrated featured him multiple times. As a Junior, he ran the 1500 in the Olympics in Tokyo. While other guys had baseball, basketball, and football stars on their walls, I had pictures of Jim Ryun. In the early 60s I was hoping that I would run a marathon sometime. As a senior in high school, I ran the Boston Marathon for the first time. But my inspiration was definitely Jim Ryun. He was the first high school runner to break a four-minute mile. He was my motivation. He was from Kansas.

CD: So what are your hopes for next season?

LK: Right now I just want for everyone to get to know each other and I want everyone to be consistent in their training. I would really like to finish in the top half of the conference and the top half of the regional qualifier. In terms of a long term goal, I would like to take St. Michael's to nationals, and this is something Steve Dowd and I agree on. It can't be done with just two

months of training. There has to be some spring training put in, some spring road and track races.

I really just want to make this fun. I want to bring in people to help motivate and do things to really make us enjoy our season.

CD: When you say, "bring in people to help motivate," who do you have in mind?

LK: Well I'd like to bring in some of my past athletes from UVM to share experiences. It helps to run with better runners. I always had my best and most fun workouts with great runners like Bill Rogers, Randy Thomas, and John Dimick. I would also like to bring back some Saint Mike's alumni. Someone like Kerri D'Arrigo, she was one of the best runners to come out of Saint Mike's.

CD: OK Larry, one last question. What made you want to coach at Saint Mike's?

LK: I really wanted to come and repay Saint Mike's. They did a lot for my education, since I was here for my masters and all. Plus I know a lot of people involved here. I've known Zaf [Bludevich] for a good 20 or 25 years. I've been around Saint Mike's my entire life. I remember riding my bike up here to see the New York Giants practice here in the 1950s. And I remember the Iron Knights when they made it to Evansville. I've known people around this place for over 40 years. I really just want to have a successful season here.

Troy Aikman hangs up jersey

Super Bowl champ and Dallas quarterback retires

By Victoria Welch
Sports Editor

After 12 seasons in professional football, Dallas Cowboy quarterback Troy Aikman announced his retirement from the National Football League on April 9.

The three-time Super Bowl champion has suffered significant medical problems in recent years, particularly concussions. He is also suffering from persistent back problems.

The No. 1 draft pick in 1989, Aikman played his entire career in Dallas, wearing the Cowboy uniform.

"It was 12 of the best years of my life, professionally speaking," Aikman said at a news conference announcing his retirement. "We had some great fun."

Aikman was waived by the

Cowboys on March 7.

The day after, he was scheduled to receive a seven-year contract extension and \$7 million bonus.

He suffered a lackluster last season with Dallas. With his injuries, which kept him out of five games, Aikman said he is considering a new career in broadcasting.

"It looks like something that will take place," he said.

Aikman cited his back problems as a key factor in his decision, as well as his family.

Aikman won Super Bowls during Dallas' domination of the National Football League in 1992, 1993, and 1995. He was the MVP in 1992.

Only former quarterbacks Joe Montana and Terry Bradshaw have won as many Super Bowls as Aikman.

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Sports

Player of the Week: Katie Sargent

Junior business major
Women's softball

Home is: Bennington.

Family is: Mom, Dad, older sister, younger brother.

High School: Mount Anthony Union High School.

Position on team: Shortstop.

Started playing: I started playing baseball when I was 8, but had to switch to softball in fifth grade.

Favorite high school memory: Going to the state finals my freshman and junior seasons.

Why SMC: I liked SMC's size and location,



and it was an added bonus that I could play softball.

Team strength: We have great team unity and depth at all positions.

Personal contributions/strength to team: I like to have fun!

Favorite SMC game: Beating UVM.

In your spare time:

Enjoy the company of my friends.

Favorite pro player:

Nomar Garciaparra.

Favorite pro team:

Boston Red Sox, maybe this is the year!

If you could play on any field, which one and why: Fenway ... the fans!

After SMC: Get a job.

The fun is over!

The season to come: I have high expectations because of my team's work ethic, which is triggered by our awesome new coach [Robyn Newton]!



Knight Writer

Final thoughts ...



By
Victoria Welch
Sports
Editor

Coming off his team's trip to the NCAA Division I championship, Arizona Wildcat Richard Jefferson decided to skip his senior year of college and go pro.

Citing his lifelong dream to play professional basketball, Jefferson will take his three years of higher education and enter the professional draft while his classmates at Arizona prepare for their final two semesters at college next year.

His classmates will be preparing for the real world, while Jefferson will be in the real world of Nike deals, soft drink endorsements and multimillion-dollar contracts.

Perhaps I'm just stuck in my "there's no way I'm going out into the real world until I absolutely have to" mentality, but I find myself baffled by Jefferson's decision, as I am each time I hear about college athletes forgoing senior year to try their hand at the professional level.

For one thing, the team suffers without its full roster. What if, speaking hypothetically, St. Michael's Todd Roberts, Brian Miles or Mark Pater announced at the end of his junior year season that he was going to go pro? The team would have suffered, and while he would be playing pro, he wouldn't be able to say he was a part of college history.

I'm particularly skeptical when the career of choice is so uncertain.

I take nothing away from Jefferson. He's obviously talented, and he could very well have a fantastic professional career, but what happens if he is injured early in that career and finds himself sidelined, or worse, out of the professional scene forever?

True, it could happen at any time. If Jefferson played his last year with the Wildcats, he could be injured then and never be able to play pro.

I just can't help but wonder if that one year is really worth sacrificing the college degree.

I would think since he's already made it through three years of college, he should play that one last year. It's not as though his stats are going to suffer, and he could wind up with a better offer when he goes pro after his senior year.

I just don't see what the-rush is. He's a good player, he'll be a good player a year from now, and

if he's meant for the NBA, waiting one more year shouldn't hurt him.

Better to have the complete education and the degree, and be able to do something outside of basketball if that surprise injury or unexpected turn of events does happen.

He could always go back to college after a few years pro, admittedly. Yet so many people have intentions of going back to college, but they never do. Things happen, and situations change.

What if his situation changes and he can't go back? Just go through and finish out college, then go pro and have a great career.

The semester flew by, and the sports scene here at St. Michael's has been insane. We've sat in the bleachers of Ross cheering on the men's basketball team, and we've looked out our windows at the falling snow and wondered when spring was finally going to arrive.

Meanwhile, the national scene has moved on, as it always does. We saw the death of a national icon when Dale Earnhardt slammed into the wall of turn four at the Daytona 500. We have seen that some athletes show no signs of changing (Darryl Strawberry's continuing legal and personal problems), while others baffle us (the Williams sisters), and others leave us inspired (Dale Earnhardt Jr. climbing back into his car days after his father's death).

I didn't realize how quickly things would go by until now, trying to reflect on what's happened.

Part of what makes sports such an interesting area is the constant change. Things always change, there are always upsets, and there is rarely a dull moment.

That's why it's so much fun. You never know what can happen, and there's always next game or next year.

Maybe next year Earnhardt Jr. will win the race that claimed his father.

Maybe St. Mike's will get their revenge on Adelphi.

Maybe spring will actually arrive when it's supposed to.

Maybe the Red Sox will win the World Series.

Well, we can't be too optimistic. But you never know.

Have a great summer.

Sports in brief

Le Moyne over SMC men's lacrosse, 15-2

Le Moyne senior Justin Kohlbrenner's five goals and three assists helped Le Moyne in their domination over the St. Michael's men's lacrosse team April 4 at Le Moyne.

Breaking out to a 4-0 lead in the first period, Le Moyne was aided by three of Kohlbrenner's goals and one goal by Ryan Spillet.

St. Michael's sophomore Bryan Barletto scored the Knights' first goal with less than two minutes left in the first period.

Le Moyne responded with seven unanswered goals, bringing the score to 11-1 in the third period.

Junior Tim Birmingham added another goal for St. Michael's.

Junior goalkeeper Jim Crozier made 19 saves for St. Michael's, while Le Moyne sophomore Tom Kimble stopped three goals in the first half of the game. Mitch Gale made two saves in the second half of play.

Le Moyne, ranked No. 5 in the NE-10, improved to 3-0 in conference play, 3-2 overall, while St. Michael's fell to 2-4 overall, 1-2 in NE-10 play.

Women's lacrosse falls to Bentley, 6-5

A goal by Bentley's Lauren Ferraro with 8:51 left in regulation play brought the Falcons over St. Michael's, 6-5, on April 7 in Waltham, Mass.

St. Michael's sophomore Amanda Lohin responded to two Bentley goals early on in the game with a goal of her own, bringing the score to 2-1. A Bentley goal by senior Amy

Bilodeau brought the gap back to two goals before St. Michael's sophomore Katie Henry brought the score to 3-2 shortly before halftime.

A second goal by Lohin at 3:26 into the second half tied the score, but two goals by Bentley followed, bringing the gap back to two goals.

Senior Sue Bette and sophomore Emily Westfall scored goals to tie the game again until the final goal by Ferraro gave Bentley the win.

Bentley improved to 3-3 overall, while St. Michael's fell to 1-4 this season.

12-7 loss for St. Michael's to Pace in men's lacrosse

Andy Wasik scored five goals and made two assists for Pace as the team defeated St. Michael's in men's lacrosse April 8, 12-7, in Pleasantville, N.Y.

Charlie Rizzuto scored 4 goals and made 1 assist while goalie Kevin Hoeverman recorded 20 saves for Pace, who improved its record to 4-1 overall.

The Knights were led by two goals scored by sophomore Nathan Siegler. Additional goals were recorded by sophomores Gregory Gosier and Bryan Barletto, juniors Matt Powers, Jonathan Curley and Tim Birmingham.

St. Michael's record dropped to 2-5 overall, 1-4 in the NE-10.

St. Michael's men lose to Bryant 8-1

Freshman Stephen Pettus defeated Bryant's Antonio Valero, 6-1, 6-2, but he was the lone St. Michael's victor as the Bulldogs defeated the Knights' men's tennis team 8-1 April 8 in

Tarrant Recreation Center.

Perfect days were had for Bryant's Dave Delworth, Miguel Duenas, and Girish Amarnani. The Bulldogs improved to 9-3 overall, while St. Michael's dropped to 6-5 overall and 4-4 in conference play.

Vassar sweeps St. Michael's baseball in doubleheader

The St. Michael's baseball team lost two games to Vassar College on April 7, 3-2 and 8-2 in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

In game one, St. Michael's took an early lead when sophomore Andrew Higley's single in the third inning brought in senior Tom Batz.

Vassar responded with a two-run second inning, with an RBI single by junior Brett Lampiasi, who was brought home by sophomore Chris Shukie's RBI single.

Despite a run scored by junior Brian Maregni off a single by senior John Miarecki, Vassar scored in the bottom of the seventh when freshman Tim Reinherdt scored off a single by Shukie.

St. Michael's had seven hits during the game, which was won by pitcher Justin Jennings. Miarecki took the loss for St. Michael's, walked six, struck out five and gave up six hits.

In game two, three-run innings in the first and third innings, as well as a two-run sixth inning helped Vassar dominate St. Michael's.

The Knights managed two hits during the game by Batz and junior Dan Doherty.

Sophomore Jesse Levine took the loss for the Knights, who fell to 5-4 overall.

Sports



Scoreboard

Baseball

(5-5)

4/7 Vassar 3,
SMC 2
Vassar 8,
SMC 2

4/12 vs. Castleton
State College at Doc
Jacobs Field
time TBA
4/16 vs. Lyndon State
College at Doc Jacobs
Field at 2 p.m.
(doubleheader)

Softball

4/4 postponed to 4/25

4/16 at Le Moyne
College at noon

Men's lacrosse

(2-5, 1-3 NE-10)

4/8 Pace 12,
SMC 7

4/12 at Franklin
Pierce College
at 3:30 p.m.
4/14 vs. New
Hampshire College at
Doc Jacobs Field
at 1 p.m.

Women's lacrosse

(1-4, 0-2 NE-10)

4/7 Bentley 6,
SMC 5

4/13 vs. Gannon at
RPI at 1 p.m.
4/14 vs. American
International at Doc
Jacobs Field at 1 p.m.

Men's tennis

(4-3, 3-2 NE-10)

4/4 SMC 8,
AIC 1
4/8 Bryant 8,
SMC 1

4/12 vs. Franklin
Pierce in Tarrant
Recreation Center
Time TBA

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Rugby team ready for action

Many new faces on club team; tournament play underway

By Jim Crozier
Staff Writer

Juniors Phil Eriksen and Ian Sutherland have high hopes for St. Michael's College rugby this spring and next fall. With about a dozen new faces this spring and 16 freshmen, a young team will prepare for next fall.

"All of the freshmen have wrestled or played football and are very athletic, which will help a lot as they learn the game," captain Eriksen said.

More than half the team are freshmen, with a total of 28 men on the roster. Seniors typically don't play in the spring because they are preparing for life after college. In addition it gives freshmen the opportunity to gain experience. By fall, Eriksen would like at least 30 people on the team.

With 15 men on offense and 15 on defense, some of the team will have to play on both sides of the ball.

Sutherland said although fall is the dominant season for rugby, the spring season will give the young backfield opportunity to compete in game situations.

The team will play in three tournaments this spring.

The first was in Albany the weekend of April 7 and 8, where it played in three games. They defeated Albany Law, lost to Union College, and beat St. Lawrence to finish in third place overall, Erikson said. There were "about a dozen teams in the tournament," he said.

The other two tournaments are the national Beast from the East in Providence, R.I. following Easter at the University of Vermont tournament on P-Day. Last fall the team placed third in the tournament and are looking for the win this time.

Eriksen will lead a young backfield into battle this weekend. Hopes are high and players are eager to get this season under way.



Photo courtesy of The Hilltop

Members of St. Michael's rugby club in action last year. The Knights are ready for action this season with new faces on the squad and appearances in upcoming tournaments. They placed third last weekend in their first spring tournament, held in Albany, N.Y.

High hopes for men's tennis

Team hopes to prove age is not a factor in season and postseason play

By Rob LaRoche
Staff Writer

The St. Michael's men's tennis team had a busy week, winning two of its four matches last week, and improving its record to 6-5 overall (4-4 NE-10).

The tennis team has been about the only team that's been active thus far this spring. With the snow this winter, it has been a difficult season for the spring sports teams. Many teams have been forced to postpone or cancel games this season. The tennis team has the advantage of playing in the Tarrant Recreation Center when at home and in other gymnasiums when on the road.

The young squad includes five freshmen, three sophomores, one junior and no seniors. The freshman class has helped the success of the team, which has matched its win total from last season with the win over American International College last week.

"We've counted on our freshmen to do a good job for us this season, and they've stepped it up," sophomore co-captain Luke Hudak said. "With such a young team, it bodes well for the future because they all have three years to play."

Despite losses to Pace University and Bryant College on April 7 and 8, the Knights' hopes remain high for their playoff chances this year.

Before the losses, St.

Michael's won its fourth consecutive match over AIC, 8-1, on April 4 at the Tarrant Recreation Center.

Hudak and freshmen John Clark and Adam Forrest all had perfect days for St. Michael's, winning in both their singles and doubles matches.

"We all just tried to play well and play our game against a weaker opponent," Hudak said.

The Knights swept AIC in the singles round, winning all six matches. Sophomore Matt McInnis led the team at the No. 1 spot, defeating AIC's Cesar Juca, 6-4, 2-6, 6-1. St. Michael's won the five other singles matches in straight sets, with freshmen Justin Wood and John Clark, and sophomore Cliff Rizzi winning 6-0, 6-0.

In the doubles round, St. Michael's took two of the three matches, with teammates Clark/Forrest and Hudak/Wood both winning their respective sets, 8-0.

The men also defeated Norwich, 8-1, at home April 3, sweeping in the singles round and winning two of the three doubles sets. Freshman Todd Spelman played at the No. 1 spot, defeating Norwich's Steve Little, 1-6, 6-3, 6-3.

"I underestimated him, and he played really well," Spelman said. "I got lucky to beat him."

The most significant match of the day came from sophomore Matt McInnis, who shut out Norwich's Ziga Ivanic 6-0, 6-0.



Photo by Rebecca Bazinet
Sophomore Matt McInnis during play against Bryant on April 8 in Tarrant Recreation Center.

"I've been having a rough start this season, so I started to turn it on," McInnis said. "Lately I've been playing well."

With the Northeast-10 playoffs fast approaching April 18, each remaining game is crucial to the Knights' season as they search for a playoff bid and a low seed.

"The matches we're playing right now are determining where we will be," McInnis said. "Basically, we have to win as much as we can so we can stay at home."

"We should end the season strong with wins over Le Moyne and UMass-Lowell and get the five or six seed in the tourney," Hudak said.

Knights score postseason honors

By Victoria Welch
Sports Editor

The New England Basketball Coaches' Association announced postseason honors April 6, and members of the St. Michael's men's basketball team dominated the list.

Head coach Tom O'Shea was given the nod for the NEBCA Division II Coach of the Year. O'Shea ended his fourth year as head coach with an overall record of 88-35. The Knights finished the 2000-2001 season at 27-4 overall.

Senior captains Todd Roberts and Mark Pater were named to the NEBCA Division II squad and were named Co-Player of the Year.

As members of the Division II team, Roberts and Pater had the opportunity to compete against the NEBCA Division I squad April 10 at Holy Cross College, in Worcester, Mass.

Senior captain Brian Miles, this year's Northeast-10 Defensive Player of the Year, received this year's NEBCA Unsung Hero Award.

Pater was honored with the Academic Achievement Award for maintaining good academic standing during his four years at St. Michael's.